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PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1889.

PRICE, 6 CENTS.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

SOME opposition to the confirmation of Judge Brewer, (as Justice of the Supreme Court), showed itself in the Senate on Tuesday, but on Wednesday when the vote was taken there were but half a score of Senators in the negative. Those from Iowa and New Hampshire, with two others, voted nay on Prohibitionist grounds, as it was Judge Brewer who decided that brewers and distillers outlawed under Prohibitory laws were entitled to compensation,—this decision being subsequently reversed by the Supreme Court. The two Arkansas Senators had a grievance of another sort, Judge Brewer having been, it appears, disposed to do justice for a colored man in a case where a white man was on the other side,—an offense which in Arkansas is held to be of the highest grade. But, as a whole, the Senate regarded the nomination as an excellent one, and we have no doubt this was a sound conclusion.

THERE is a more serious opposition to the confirmation of General Morgan as Indian Commissioner, though it is not developed how many Senators are against him. The energy with which he has taken hold of the problems of Indian administration has commended him to nearly all the friends of Indian civilization, not excepting many of those who differ from him on the very point which has roused opposition. This is his proposal to discontinue the allowance made to the mission schools established on the Reservations under Gen. Grant's policy of inviting the co-operation of the Churches with the Government. Had all the Churches acted with equal promptness and perseverance in that co-operation, there probably would have been very little resistance to the continuance of the aid to these schools. But the Roman Catholics, the Episcopalians, and the Presbyterians alone enjoy this distinction, and the Catholics have more and get more than all the rest. Gen. Morgan at the outset avowed his purpose to put an end to the arrangement, and to establish a school system at national expense which would supply the needs of all the Indian children. The last Lake Mohonk meeting of the friends of the Indians was very sharply divided on this issue; while approving of all he had to say of the extension of the school system to meet the needs of neglected children, it was thought best to take no ground on this subject in the annual deliverance of the Conference. The Bishop of Minnesota and Mr. Herbert Welsh were especially strong in disapproval of the suggestion, the former claiming that the mission schools enjoyed a permanence in their teaching staff and obtained a higher grade of teachers than was possible in Government schools.

ARCHBISHOP IRELAND of St. Paul, the preacher of the Catholic Congress, states the case against the Commissioner's policy from that point of view. He says: "For fifteen years the Interior Department has invited the Churches to coöperate in educating the Indian children. When the Churches build the school, the teachers are paid from \$100 to \$125 a year by the Government. There are several Churches interested in the matter, the Catholic Church quite largely. We oppose this policy because it is not in good faith. The Churches were encouraged by the Government to establish these schools." Dr. Ireland added that the complaints of the Catholics had been laid before Mr. Harrison, and that they had every reason to be satisfied with the response. He regarded the President's Message as in opposition to the new Commissioner's policy, and he opposed Gen. Morgan not only as a Catholic but as a Republican, believing that he was doing what would injure the party. He also brought charges of the removal of Roman

Catholics as such from posts in the Indian service; but these Gen. Morgan has been able to refute.

It would be a great misfortune if this opposition should stand in the way of Mr. Morgan's confirmation, and yet it is impossible to deny that there is some ground for the complaint that his policy would involve unfairness to the religious bodies which accepted of the offer made under Gen. Grant's policy. It would be quite in order for the President to direct the new Commissioner to confine his educational efforts to the extension of the schools into the communities which are at present insufficiently supplied, and leave the question of mission schools for Congress to deal with.

OF the new legislation thus far introduced into Congress, there is very little that commands public attention. Senator Call revives once more the proposal to purchase Cuba, and succeeds in irritating the Spaniards without awakening any enthusiasm in this country. It is rather more than thirty years since any of the numerous proposals to this effect has aroused more than a flicker of interest in America. The present attitude of the national mind is adverse to further acquisitions of more territory in that quarter. About the only thing that would tempt us now, would be a chance of getting British Columbia in some honorable and peaceful way, if such there were, and that not so much for its own sake, as in order to round off our territory on the Pacific Coast. But we have no ambition to convert Uncle Sam into another "weary Titan," by adding to the responsibilities he already has to bear.

Of much more practical importance is the proposal made by one Senator, to permit national banks to deposit State and municipal bonds with the national Treasury as security for their circulation, instead of requiring national bonds exclusively. Of course the objection will occur to every one that not all these bonds are of equal value, as many of them are the issues of repudiating States. This is true, but the use of these bonds as security for a circulating medium within the State,—the national banks of each State being confined to the use of its bonds,—would have the effect of imparting to them a stability in value which they do not possess. When their ownership has been thus diffused among the people of the States it would become much more difficult for its Treasury to default on their interest or repudiate the principal. A popular opinion would be created in behalf of State honesty, which is very much needed in several of these States. And the diminished demand for the national bonds as the basis of circulation would make it much easier for the Treasury to invest the surplus in buying them on terms favorable to the Government. The proposition is worthy of serious consideration, especially in view of the fact that one of the worst faults of our present monetary system is its centralization of our issues of paper money at a few points.

THE Republican members of the Committee of Ways and Means have had a conference and come to an understanding as to the measures they will submit to the consideration of the committee. The first is a measure to reform the administration of the Tariff, and this should excite little debate, as it is admitted by both parties that the need of reform is most urgent. (This bill was introduced on Monday by Mr. McKinley.) In the Congress before the last Mr. Hewitt prepared a bill which would have accomplished the reform needed, but it was one of the *betises* of Mr. Mills's leadership that he would allow of no separate vote on this measure in that Congress or the last, insisting that the House must take the whole Tariff question as one lump, and either accept all his proposals or none. It is much better policy to separate the questions, and it shows that the Republicans of the committee

have faith in the strength of their cause that they do not propose to employ administrative reform as a floater for their revision of the Tariff.

The two other measures are the Senate's substitute for the last Mills Tariff bill, and a measure to reform the Internal Revenue system by repealing the duty on tobacco and on alcohol used in the arts. As the latter will command many votes which might not be cast for a revision of the Tariff on the lines laid down by the Senate, it again might seem more politic to fasten the two together, after the example set by the Democrats in last Congress. But again we think the franker way the better, and that is to separate the two issues, and let each stand on its own merits.

Two measures have been introduced to secure fair elections of members of the House and of Presidents. That of Mr. Sherman proposes to take these elections everywhere out of the hands of the States, and to put them under National control. That of Senator Chandler would leave them under State control except in those districts where there is reason to expect unfairness. This he would test by requiring a formal declaration from a sufficient number of voters that they have reason to expect unfairness. It is possible to go farther than this without going so far as Senator Sherman does. Wherever, as in Virginia and South Carolina, the preparation of the registration lists of voters, the supervision of the elections or the counting of the votes is kept in the hands of the party which controls the State government, the National authorities should not wait for any complaint from voters. Arrangements of this kind in the election laws of any State constitute a strong presumption that there is not to be a fair election. In all such cases the registration of voters, the supervision of the elections, and the counting of votes should be placed in the hands of *bona fide* representatives of both parties appointed by the United States Courts, the nominees of the political committees being appointed when there is no reason for rejecting them.

This, of course, will be the best contested proposal the majority will make this session. It will be urged on the Republican side as though this were all that is needed to secure the freedman in his civil and political rights. But in truth it is only a first step to that end. The race question in the South is much larger and more complicated than this of fair elections to national offices, and the Republican party will not have accomplished its mission until it has solved it. Its temptation, now, as in Reconstruction times, is to regard the question too much from the point of view of party advantage in national politics.

THE laws of Illinois, as of some other States, extend to a jury the privilege of affixing the punishment to be inflicted, when they bring in a verdict of guilty. In the Cronin case the jury have apparently availed themselves of this privilege for the sake of preventing a disagreement. One juror, a Mr. Culver, is said to have stood out against his colleagues either for a verdict of acquittal or against hanging, and only to have come to an agreement with them on the condition that none of the accused should lose his life. Those who object to capital punishment for any crime will be satisfied with this result; but those who do not must regard it as a failure of justice, since certainly never did murderers better deserve the extreme penalty of the law than did those who killed Dr. Cronin. It was a crime of singular atrocity, the victim being entrapped by an appeal to his sense of professional duty into a den where he had not a chance of his life, but was despatched in a moment, without any opportunity for that preparation which both he and his murderers regarded as of almost infinite importance. It was not, as in most such murders, the attack of man on man, under conditions which leave a chance of defense or escape. By long and deliberate preparation they had made sure not only that he should have not a chance of escape, but as they thought that not a trace should be left of their own guilt. And having killed his person, they proceeded to murder his good name by spreading vile reports to account for his absence from his profes-

sional duties and from the city. And the action of their friends during the trial in seeking to corrupt the jury and to destroy the material evidences of guilt, as also to terrorize the witnesses, furnished additional reasons for making the punishment exemplary. This has been prevented by the resistance of one man, who was pointed out before the jury had retired as having been already tampered with. The three principal offenders get imprisonment for life; an accomplice gets three years,—although if he was guilty at all, he should have been punished with the same measure as the rest, as being an accomplice before the fact. One is set at liberty, in accordance with the judge's charge, which tended to exculpate him.

THE death of Mr. Franklin B. Gowen, as is believed by suicide, in Washington last Saturday, has produced a wide-spread sorrow, such as even this sad ending to a useful life rarely awakens. Mr. Gowen enjoyed the general respect for his integrity, his courage, and his ability, and not least so among those who had distrusted his judgment as the President of the Reading Railroad, and who opposed his continuance in that very responsible position. His failure to obtain a reelection produced no bitterness in his mind, and he was on terms of warm personal friendship with his successor, Mr. Corbin. Yet there is reason to believe that the departure of the new management from certain lines of action which he thought necessary to the success of the road, did prey upon his mind for some months past, and may have produced the unsettling of intellect which had this sad result. For even after his retirement from office Mr. Gowen was intensely interested in the fortunes of the road, and felt keenly every change which affected them. We are not criticising the present management, but merely stating what we have learned was the fact as to his estimate of its policy—an estimate altogether honest on his part, but naturally influenced by his former relations to the corporation.

One service the Commonwealth never can afford to forget. The courage shown by Mr. Gowen in the detection, exposure, and punishment of the murderous "Mollie Maguire" conspiracy which had established a reign of terror in the coal-mining district of Eastern Pennsylvania, constitutes a rare claim to honorable remembrance in the annals of the State. And it may be added, indeed, that his individuality,—his refusal to accept mechanically the conditions of citizenship in Pennsylvania, which the "dominant leaders" of the time might choose to declare,—was a quality of high value. We have altogether too few resolute, strong, and energetic characters in the affairs of our Commonwealth.

AN appointment of postmaster has been made at Pittsburg to please Mr. Quay, though it displeases many Pittsburg people, including Mr. Dalzell, who represents that city in Congress. It is made unquestionably, as a factional appointment, and it will increase the factional divisions there. At Allentown, where a bitter contest has been in progress among the several aspirants for the office, a selection has been made upon the recommendation of Chief-Justice Paxson,—the appointee being his brother-in-law,—and here, too, "Republicans say the appointment will seriously affect the party."

If Mr. Harrison should have the melancholy duty assigned him of preparing a memorial stone for the Republican party, he will doubtless direct that the inscription mention first of all the wounds inflicted in the Post-Office Department.

THE Supreme Court of New York having decided that the electric lighting companies are maintaining a nuisance in keeping dangerous wires above-head in that city, the authorities have not waited to hear what the "Superior" Court has to say of this ruling, but have gone about the work of tearing down every line of wire that the experts of the Board of Electrical Control declare to be dangerous. Certainly this action came none too soon. There had already been a number of deaths from contact with such wires, and these at so short intervals that a new horror was added to the fate of those who are condemned to live in New York. Of

course the City takes a serious responsibility in acting on the judgment of its experts, but we do not see how it can help taking it. It cannot well allow the people to continue to be killed in this horrible way, nor can it permit the continuance of a nuisance which might at any moment become a death-dealing force to a much larger number than has been imperilled thus far. And in its efforts to avoid this it must take the best advice it can get, just as it takes the advice of its physicians in case of a great peril from pestilence, even although nobody claims that the doctors are infallible judges.

In Philadelphia, partly because the business of electric-lighting has not been carried so far as in New York, and partly, no doubt, because the management of the lines has been more judicious and careful than in that city, there have been no casualties of this kind reported. In any further extension of the system we need especially to be on our guard against companies which employ wires too small in diameter to sustain and distribute the great tension required for effective lighting. It is these companies who have been the worst death-dealers in New York.

FRESH attention has been called to the Delaware system of disqualifying and disfranchising the Republican poll-tax payers by an application to the courts of that State for a mandamus to compel the Wilmington tax-collectors to perform their duties. These two worthies, after having carried on for weeks the methods of fraud and trickery heretofore referred to in THE AMERICAN, refused even to receive the tax of a citizen who had duly appointed an attorney-in-fact to make the payment and receive the receipt, and the application now made is that the Court shall oblige them to do this.

The whole proceeding of the tax-collectors is so indefensible that no doubt persons who now read of it without knowing the previous history of the business may be hesitant to believe that the facts are correctly stated. They may understand it better by comprehending that it is simply a part of the method by which Delaware undertakes to suppress the colored vote, and so to nullify the 15th Amendment. Other and more violent means are employed in other States; in Delaware, since 1871, the plan has been to prevent Republicans holding no real estate, especially the colored men, from being qualified as voters, and the legislation to increase the difficulties of qualification, and to give opportunity for such cheating and evasion as the two tax-collectors of Wilmington practice, is a monument of fraud upon the right of citizenship.

A GENERAL strike for an eight hour limit to a day's labor, accompanied by a demand for an Eight-Hour Law, will be undertaken this spring in both England and America. In England Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Morley, and other Liberal leaders have been invited to extend to it their support. Mr. Morley's answer exhibited his adherence to the teachings of the English economists. He regarded the length of a day's work, like that of the rate of pay, as a matter to be determined by private agreement, and by the demand and supply of the labor market. It is notable that those who take this ground are generally the first to censure any attempt of organized labor to determine what the supply of labor shall be, or to modify in any way the competition of that market. They assume that the single workman negotiates for employment on equal terms with the employer of labor, which is palpably impossible.

Mr. Gladstone was more reserved. He admitted that the question was too big to be settled by an axiom or a common-place from the economists, but confessed that he had not given it attention enough to have the right to express his opinion. He could only say that if such a bill were presented in Parliament, he would give it very serious consideration. Lord Randolph Churchill, speaking for the Tory Democracy, committed himself squarely to the measure.

There is no more unsettled question in political economy than

this Eight-Hour proposal again brings to the front: "What determines the rate of wages?" All the old solutions have broken down, and most of them are discredited even in the eyes of the school which advanced them. Some of our contemporaries argue that any reduction in the hours of labor must reduce wages in equal measure, except in so far as more leisure enables the workman to do more during an hour than before. This is by no means certain. It is possible that the reduction of hours of labor would only affect prices, and not either wages or profits; and as all our economic changes have been in favor of the consumer, it is not impossible that he could stand an advance of twenty per cent. and not likely that he would have to stand so much.

THE quarrel between England and Portugal in regard to their respective claims in South Africa is one of which Americans might incline to say: "Pull baker, pull devil!" were it not that the welfare of the natives is at stake in this conflict over "claims" that rest on nothing. The right of Portugal to Nyassaland is conceded by British geographers generally, and from the tone taken by the *Morning Post*, we infer that the English ministry is not much disposed to make the matter one of serious dispute. All the fuss in London comes from irresponsible newspapers. As usual, the aggressors in the case are the people on the spot, who want to see Portugal hustled off the ground. Thus Consul Johnston takes the trouble to furnish the Makolo tribes with English flags on no better ground than that there is some sort of English claim over their territory. Such an action was as much a violation of proper policy as was the alleged massacre by Senor Serpa Pinto, of which the Portuguese know nothing whatever. The real reason for English aggressiveness is that through the disputed territory lies the best, almost the only, route to the Albert Nyanza country, whence English missionaries and traders find access to central Africa.

It is painful news to many Americans that the Brahmo Somaj of India is threatened with extinction. Mr. Mozoomdar is said to have lost heart with reference to its future, and to write as if he thought it had rendered all the service of which it was capable. He is a man of great eloquence and notable powers as a religious thinker, but he never possessed Chunder Sen's ability in popular leadership, or his personal impressiveness. Since Chunder Sen's death he has been forced by circumstances to take the chief charge, and it is possible that the complications and difficulties of the position have been too much for him. In his admirable statement of the "Faith and Progress of the Brahmo Somaj," (Calcutta, 1882,) he points to reabsorption into Hindooism as the great danger before the movement. It was his own disposition to insist on the features it had in common with Islam and Christianity, especially the latter. Yet his own account of the later development of the Somaj showed that the omnipresent atmosphere of Hindooism was proving too much for it even while Chunder Sen was living. First came the introduction of devotional services copied from one of the humblest of Hindoo sects, in which twelve continuous hours were spent in rapturous singing and absorbing prayer. Then came the systematic revival of the old Hindoo forms of devotion, four in number. Then was added asceticism of the severest kind, the ministers of the sect cooking their own food, refusing to receive any service from others, and practicing fasts of Hindoo extravagance. All these indications pointed one way, and emphasized the danger that Hindooism would prove strong enough to absorb this theistic movement, as it had those of Nanak and Chatainya, who had been aroused to the denunciation of idolatry by the teachings of the Moslems. The Brahmo Somaj differed from them chiefly in owing so much to Christianity, and it now seems likely that its chief service will be in serving as a half-way house to prepare Hindoos for accepting the faith of the rulers of India. All three have failed because they could not create an atmosphere of social opinion adverse to the evils they denounced, as Christianity did in the conversion of the Roman

world. And so the insensible pressure of the Hindoo atmosphere was too much for them, as it has been to some degree to even Mahometans, who attend the Hindoo feasts and adopt Hindoo practices to a considerable extent.

FINANCIAL REVIEW.

NEW YORK.

THE railroad managers of the great systems which run through Iowa have seen light. An important item of news the past week was the despatch stating that the representatives of the companies and the Railroad Commissioners of Iowa had filed with Governor Larrabee stipulations for the dismissal of all pending suits wherein the State and railroads are parties. These were the suits contesting the right of the State to fix rates, and in which Judge Brewer (just appointed to the Supreme Court) decided first, that the State must not, or could not, fix rates lower than would pay a reasonable return on the bonds and stock of a railroad; and second, when the State schedules were presented to him to act upon, he decided that the railroads must put them to practical test before he could decide whether they were reasonable or unreasonable.

The railroad men said this meant bankruptcy. The rates were the lowest ever made in that part of the country, except in some brief rate squabble. As permanent tariffs the managers declared that it was nothing but confiscation of property. In the East, a great outcry was raised against Iowa, its confiscating Legislature, and demagogue governor. Strange to say, none of the dismal predictions made have come to pass. None of the great Iowa railroad systems have gone into bankruptcy this year; and furthermore, western despatches say that the suits referred to were withdrawn because the railroad men found that they did not lose money under the State tariffs, and that the traffic increased immensely. One thing is very certain. Every one of these railroad systems reports gross earnings this year in excess of last, and as they all reduced working expenses in anticipation of hard times, they are pretty well off now as things go.

An instructive object lesson, of interest to investors and others, is given by the calculations made as to what a railroad system may do under given conditions, and how wide they may be from the mark. In the case just cited, the railroad men sincerely believed that that portion of their roads running through Iowa would be run at a dead loss, and they were agreeably disappointed when the test was made. Another case of mistaken calculation on the same subject was that of a prominent financial firm, having connections both in New York and Chicago, and supposed from its position to be specially well posted on the granger roads. In July last this firm sent out a lithographed circular to its clients, on the prospects of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy for the year, —taking this as a representative granger road. In this circular the firm say:

"We find the outstanding indebtedness of the company (as given in the *Financial Chronicle*) to be \$112,739,000, on which the fixed charges are \$5,900,000. The net earnings for first 5 months of 1889 were \$2,979,890. We take the year 1887 as a fair example, as we are told it was a normal and representative year. The net earnings for first five months of that year were \$5,133,429, against a total for the year of \$12,363,196, or say 41½ per cent. Now applying the same ratio to 1889 it would indicate total net earnings for the year of say \$7,180,000; balance applicable to dividends say \$1,278,000 on capital \$76½ millions, or say 1.4-5 per cent. This we believe to be quite as favorable to the company as the figures will permit. Under most favorable circumstances C. B. & Q. can earn on its stock 1.4-5 per cent. this year."

Here was apparently a conservative calculation. It was at the time more favorable than the outlook warranted, and the circular points out that while under favorable conditions the company may earn one and four-fifths on its stock this year, yet that it was not apparent these favorable conditions would continue, and in fact, "there is no likelihood under present circumstances that this company will earn 1 per cent. on its capital stock this year." As the C. B. & Q. is known to be a model road, well equipped, and with a splendid country tributary to it, if its prospects (it was argued) were no better than this, what could be the outlook for its less fortunate competitors. Truly a dismal prospect, but apparently there was no escape from it.

Now how has the calculation agreed with the facts? Here is the statement: the gross earnings of the C. B. & Q., for the ten months ending October of 1887, were, in round numbers, \$24,900,000. The gross earnings for the same ten months of this year, are \$27,900,000; an increase, gross, of \$3,000,000. The net earnings for the ten months of this year are officially reported at \$10,305,071. The estimate made in the circular quoted is that they would be "for the whole year," \$7,180,000.

There are two good months yet to come. In the year 1887, the company earned in these two months: November, \$2,382,965; in December, \$2,163,388; total \$4,546,353. It is a safe calculation

that the company will at least earn that this year; making gross for the twelve months, in round numbers, \$32,500,000. Take the fixed charges as given in the circular at \$5,900,000, or say \$6,000,000, the total net earnings for the year will not be less than \$12,000,000. This would leave \$6,000,000 to pay dividends on \$76,500,000 of stock—rather different from 1 per cent. which the circular said was all that could be earned on it. The fact is, however, that the annual fixed charges are considerably more than \$6,000,000 per annum, and the company will probably earn about 5 per cent. on its stock this year.

The other granger roads are doing about as well, comparatively, as the C. B. & Q., and the feeling in Chicago is turning from bear to bull in respect to the stocks of these roads. The despatch alluded to above, announcing the withdrawal of the Iowa suits, had a stimulating effect on the market, but it was brief, for the money situation controls, and this is not a time for a bull movement. Owing to this, the declaration of an extra dividend of ½ per cent. on New York Central fell flat on the market, upon which the coal stocks hang heavy and menacing, while the trust stocks are a constant danger. The fluctuations in the price of sugar stock continue as wild as ever; but it is noted that three times in the course of these wild movements, extending over some weeks, the stock has fallen to 55, and each time support has come to it at that figure and started the price up again. The dividend of 2½ per cent. was paid, and immediately it was the quotations dropped three points. General business has dropped away until brokers are feeling very blue, and to most of them it will be a dismal Christmas.

LOOKING FORWARD.

THE appearance of Mr. Cleveland, in Boston, last week, at the Merchants' dinner, was that of one who leads his party. He presented himself, plainly, not as an ex-President but as a candidate for another term of service in the Presidency.

Regarding this fact in its due relation to the indications that there will not be an effective opposition to his candidacy,—that such plans as Governor Hill may be forming will prove but minor affairs,—we may already forecast very largely the situation of the field in 1892. Nor is this, we may remind the reader, a long time ahead; in twenty-four months from the present the movements which make up the contest for the Presidency, which settle how and upon what lines it shall proceed, will be well defined.

Mr. Cleveland presented three ideas at Boston. He favored "Tariff Reform," Ballot Reform, and the Reform of the Civil Service. What he said as to the first was to a degree indefinite: it might mean little or much; but the obvious implication of his language was that he stood fast in the purpose of attacking the Protective system. All the tendency of what he said was to impeach and condemn the legislation by which we discourage the import of foreign goods, in order to favor home production, and it was intended, no doubt, as the reassertion of the policy and measures which he proposed in the famous message of December, 1887. In other ways, in other expressions, he has said very definitely that this is his position, and it may be accepted as conclusive that, as matters stand to-day, the Mr. Cleveland who intends to be the Democratic candidate next time, is the same who was the candidate last time on a Free Trade platform.

To his Free Trade views Mr. Cleveland adds the demand for a ballot reform, and his profession of regard for the reform of the civil service. He is thus reaching after the same elements which in 1884 procured his nomination and obtained for him the electors of the State of New York,—the Mugwump voters, as we have since designated them,—but he is reaching also for those other voters who if they were bolters in 1884 were not so in 1888,—who returned to the Republican line and helped to give General Harrison his majority in New York. Mr. Cleveland is, in fact, seeking to identify himself again with the thought and feeling of those who once were hoping to find him a real Reformer, but who were disappointed in the record he made.

It would be rash to say that he will make this effort altogether in vain. If we are to have a showing of the work done in Mr. Wanamaker's department as compared with that under Mr. Vilas, there can hardly be an effective claim that the comparison places Mr. Cleveland's administration at a disadvantage; while if we

consider what was promised by the two candidates of 1888 concerning the Civil Service, it may be feared that the relative measure of performance shown will favor Mr. Cleveland's desire to recover his following. Mr. Wanamaker, acting as a lieutenant of Mr. Quay, effectively helps to make the designs of the Democratic leader practicable.

If, then, the march of the parties in the next two years is to be along the lines now indicated, what is to discourage Mr. Cleveland's plan of a return to the White House? Obviously the one hope of the Republicans will be to defeat him on the economic issue. But if it was just possible to do that in 1888, when high hopes were entertained of General Harrison, and when the dominance of politicians like Mr. Quay was scarcely apprehended, much less expected, how can there be a confident hope that the rally of the Republican forces will be more earnest and more energetic now? Plainly, it needed but a little loss in 1888 to have turned the scale, and the losses since that time have been great. Mr. Quay so acted in New York City, and in Connecticut, and elsewhere, as to repel from any organization in which he was chief, thousands of Irish-American votes. That element alone was strong enough to save the day for Protection. But it will not march behind a politician of his stamp, even for Protection's sake.

Looking ahead, then, Mr. Cleveland's prospect does not appear discouraging. He has gained by the gifts of his opponents. If they are to continue these he may well contemplate the future cheerfully.

TREATY REVISION IN JAPAN.

THE newspapers recently received from Japan show that the proposed revision of the treaties with European and American Powers is exciting a wide-spread opposition, not unlike that which was the precursor of the overthrow of the Shogunate in 1868. The advantages secured to Japan by the new treaties are very great. Through them there will be an immediate increase in the duties of the Imperial Tariff on imports, and what is even more important, after twelve years Japan may "denounce" these treaties and assume entire autonomy of the matter in fresh negotiations. It is true that the advance now proposed is not great, but it may suffice for the restoration of many industries that have been prostrated, and this experience undoubtedly will lead the people to demand more at the earliest date the treaties will permit. It was perhaps unavoidable that the new Tariff should be a matter of treaty specification, but no such pledge is given as to the future.

The other gain secured by the revision is the abolition of extra-territorial jurisdiction within five years after the ratification. The assumption by foreign nations of the right to exercise contentious jurisdiction over their subjects resident in Japan has been not only an insult to the civilization of the Empire, but a source of constant injustice and oppression to the Japanese. The reports of the doings in the consular courts show that their jurisdiction constitutes almost an entire immunity for foreigners of certain nationalities to insult and wrong their Japanese neighbors. Even when offences committed have been too gross to be overlooked, the punishments inflicted have been shamefully disproportioned to the offence. Thus the mate of an English vessel has been sentenced to five years' imprisonment for taking the life of an undefended Japanese, with whom he had quarrelled. Five years for a life is about the measure of British justice which is dealt out in the consular courts, and the Japanese who are at all familiar with the course of things at the treaty ports find the continuance of this jurisdiction simply intolerable.

By the new treaties this jurisdiction will not be established at any of the new ports thrown open to commerce; and it will cease at those where it already exists, in five years. But in place of it there is to be a mixed court of Japanese and foreign judges, which will have jurisdiction over all cases arising between foreigners and natives. By the latest announcements these foreign judges must become citizens of the empire before entering upon office, so as to entirely separate them from alien allegiance and to avoid the anomaly of allowing aliens to act as judges in the Mikado's name. But the whole arrangement seems distasteful to the Japanese. What they have seen of consular jurisdiction has not impressed them with the fairness of European judges generally; and they cannot stomach the creation of places in their judicial system which are to be filled only by foreigners. They regard this as a continuation of the old insult to their civilization under a new form.

What excites the most general opposition to the new treaties is the concession that foreigners may go anywhere, reside in any place in the empire, and own land or engage in any business. Under the present treaties these privileges are confined to the designated ports, and foreigners who wish to travel beyond them must first obtain passports from their minister resident at the capital. Within the limited area thus accustomed to contact with Europeans, the old opposition to foreigners has died out, and it is from this limited area that we hear so much of the assimilation of Japan to Western ways and habits of thought. The great mass of the empire, however, still cherishes much of the repugnance to the admission of foreigners, which has grown out of the code established by the Yedo Shogunate after the expulsion of the Jesuit missionaries and the massacre of their converts. They have submitted to the opening of the treaty ports as something imposed upon the government partly by the unfaithfulness of the Shogun before his overthrow, and partly by the overwhelming strength of the foreign powers.

The present case is different, as Japan now takes the initiative and proposes to extend the area of the Empire open to the settlement of foreigners until in every port there may be a foreign settlement and in every native industry a foreign competitor. This appeals very powerfully to the passionate patriotism of the Japanese, which has not cast off the ideas of the Shogunate rule by any means so completely as has been supposed. A great number of meetings has been held to denounce Revision of the Treaties, a series of native newspapers has been suspended temporarily or permanently for opposing ratification, and an attempt has been made to assassinate Count Okuma, the minister of foreign affairs, who is held especially responsible for the new policy. And the funeral of the would-be assassin was attended by the representatives of quite a number of political clubs.

Most threatening of all is the division within the Cabinet, which has resulted from Count Okuma's policy. As we said some time ago, since the overthrow of the old feudal nobility the government of Japan has passed into the hands of bureaucratic oligarchy, whose membership is not large, and who are strong chiefly through their standing firmly by each other and rewarding their supporters with office and promotion under the government. It often happens that a combination of this kind gets its overthrow through the unpopularity of its best proposals, as did the Shogunate from its bowing to necessity and admitting foreigners to trade with Japan. It seems not impossible that the resignations of several of the ablest members of the Imperial Cabinet may have very serious results for the political combination which has controlled the Empire in the name of the Mikado for the last twenty years. Its present strength is due entirely to the fact that there is nobody to take the place of the oligarchy if the popular indignation should compel the Mikado to retire it from power.

ARCHITECTURE OF VENICE.

TRAVEL the civilized world from end to end and you cannot find in it two places more poetical than Venice and Granada. Two cities which offer a greater contrast in their past history, present condition, or future prospects could scarcely be mentioned, but both are instinct with the spirit of poetry to such an extent that no other place in their respective countries is worthy to be compared with them. The latter, throned on the heights between the Genil and the Darro, guarded by the palace fortress of the Alhambra, overlooking the fertile expanse of a fruitful and smiling vega, and overlooked by the snowcapped peak of the Veleta, is past description beautiful; the former, camped low among the lagoons of the Adriatic, intersected by salt water channels whose banks are lined with picturesque palaces, traversed at all hours by gliding gondolas, glorious with gems of Gothic and Renaissance, replete with color, famous in history, is magnificent beyond expression. He who has not seen both has missed much of this world's purest pleasure; he who has seen them longs again to visit them.

Venice is no longer decaying, neither is she flourishing. No longer the proud city, chief of many lands and many isles, no longer mistress of the seas, shorn of her commerce and of her merchant princes, she still holds a place among the largest cities of Italy, and derives an income from the myriads of strangers who flock to view the relics of her past magnificence. The palaces upon the Grand Canal are for the most part no more the residences of nobles. The Palazzo Crimani is the Hotel de Ville, the Palazzo Gritti is occupied by Salvati's glass factory, the Fondaco dei Turchi is the Civic Museum, the Palazzo Ferro is a hotel, the Palazzo Dandolo a café, the Palazzo Foscari a school of commerce, the Palazzo Farsetti the municipal hall, the Palazzo Manin the national bank, the Palazzo Cavalli the German Consulate, and so on throughout almost the whole of the two long lines of mansions.

Still the black gondolas glide softly along the canals, propelled by the erect gondoliers; and still beauty, especially English-speaking beauty, loves to be rowed around on moonlit eves, listening to the songs of sweet but mercenary singers in lantern-lighted barges; but another claimant for public favor, the steamboat, now dashes along from pier to pier, and is extensively patronized at all hours by the Venetians as well as by their visitors. However traversed, whether in the gondola or the steamer, the Grand Canal presents through all its length a continuous panorama which is indelibly graven on the memory. Palace after palace, this Lombardic and round-arched, that with gothic tracery framed into gorgeous panels, the next with the stately columns of the best period of the renaissance, pass rapidly before the eye in a bewildering succession of magnificence, and then we land opposite the Dogane, traverse a narrow street, and emerge from the porticoes of the grand piazza into a full view of that most fantastic yet most impressive of cathedrals, a Byzantine church in a Latin city, San Marco. To the right the campanile rises tall and straight, no great beauty, and capped with a positively repulsive upper story, but its faults are scarcely noticed in the presence of the arches of St. Mark's, which frame in the broad end of the ascended piazza. The wild horses, spoils of Constantinople, the solemn mosaics, the wondrously varied capitals, the richly tinted materials dazzle and charm the beholder out of criticism into admiration, and, as he advances, the glories of the majestic arcades of the Ducal Palace dawn upon his sight, and he is led on down the Piazzetta to the water edge, past Sansovino's loggia and library, between the columns of San Marco and San Teodoro, until he takes in the angular view of that much-criticized yet ever-admired residence of the Doges. With all her grandeur Paris has nothing to offer that can compare with Venice. The quay-girt Seine, in spite of the vast piles of edifices which line its banks, has none of the charm of the Grand Canal, and the huge "places" of la Concorde and of the Bastille utterly lack the poetry of the Piazza di San Marco. San Marco itself is small compared with Notre Dame de Paris, a baby compared to St. Peter's at Rome, yet it makes upon the mind a much deeper impression than either. The mosaic-covered domes and walls, a historical museum of glass mosaic from the ninth to the sixteenth century, the walls, pavements, piers, columns, statues, of choicest and rarest marbles glowing with the richest colors, the fantastic variety of the carving and adornments make up a whole so grandly weird that it can never be forgotten. San Marco has been so written about, so endlessly photographed and chromo-lithographed, so repeatedly painted in every aspect, that a visitor does not expect to be charmed or surprised, and is astonished to find that he is both. If anything could take away the attraction of this remarkable church, it would be the constant stream of strangers that inundates its aisles, and the provoking swarms of guides who will never permit any man or woman not of Venice born to enjoy a moment's peace.

Notwithstanding Mr. Ruskin's comparison of St. Mark's to a vast cave, and his rhapsody about narrow phosphoric streams of light, and feeble gleamings reflected by polished walls, the openings around the domes of the roof, aided by such other light as enters by doors and windows, cause the interior to be better-lighted, even on a rainy day, than the majority of Italian churches. Fortunately there is no possibility, or at least there exist no facilities to diminish the quantity of light which enters from the domes—if there were, doubtless the priests, who in the interiors of their churches certainly love darkness, would shroud the gold mosaics in a dimness as intense as that which pervades most of the churches of Rome. As it is, most of the figures and subjects can be made out tolerably well from the pavement, but a tour round the gallery affords a better idea of their magnificence. Tintoretto has contributed some of his best work to this interior, and Sansovino has adorned the chancel with bas-reliefs and statues, yet their work is but an infinitesimal portion of the grand whole, and somehow the older, ruder work looks grander. The histories of the Creation, Flood, Joseph, and Moses, wrought in primitive fashion upon the domes and arches of the vestibule, may at times provoke an irreverent smile from a visitor who examines them in detail, yet the general effect is imposing. It will not do to inquire too rigidly, either within or without of this church, the purpose of each individual column. Many of them have no purpose save that of exhibiting a rich material and an intricately sculptured capital, yet all find their place in the picture, and an absentee would be missed. The entire structure is an example of the triumph of art over the rules of architectural criticism. Designed as a purely Byzantine structure, San Marco was completed externally as a Gothic one, and ostentates upon the upper portion of its façade all the florid detail of the Venetian manner, yet none but an architect would note where the one style ends and the other begins. The mosaic upon the half-dome of the façade to the left hand of the spectator shows the original design, and shows that the columns in the central

window of the upper story, though they now bear nothing, were originally designed to carry arches, the tympanum being filled in, not as now entirely with glass, but partly with stonework.

The Ducal Palace, whence comes the charm of its exterior? The heavy upper story, overweighting to the eye the slender arcades beneath has been many times adversely criticized, and cannot by the greatest admirer of the building be called beautiful in itself. Yet the lower stories seem to owe much of their beauty to the incubus which rests upon them. A third range of arcading would not improve the exterior, and the arcades alone would have no magnificence. It is the effect of contrast. The continuous line of arcades and quatrefoils gains variety from the central openings of the superimposed work, and lightness from the solidity of the walling piled upon them. The lower series of arcades is too low, it has the appearance of having sunk downwards some five feet into the lagoon; the insufficiently pierced upper lofty story is too high and too heavy; the terminal balustrade, with its gilded balls stuck upon iron pins, is ridiculous; and yet the entire façade is a thing of beauty that wins praise from the most critical, and charms those who are most inclined to carp at the arrangement of its solids and voids.

W. N. LOCKINGTON.

WEEKLY NOTES.

At the annual meeting of the "Neighborhood Guild" of this city, on Monday evening, Mr. Stover of New York gave an interesting account of the neighborhood guild established by some young men in the Tenth Ward of that city. One-eighth of all the arrests made last year in that city were in this ward. It is a tenement-house region, but its residents are by no means in want. They support one drinking-saloon for each 135 of the population, and these are so flourishing that Mr. Stover thought they should be called golden rather than gilded. One of them has some seven or eight hundred silver dollars fastened into the floor by way of ornament. In others the most costly marbles are employed in the decoration of the bars. The need of the region is not charitable relief of any kind, as there is too much of that already, the churches being the worst offenders. The need is for personal influence that shall tell in the awakening of self-respect, the stimulation of intellectual life, and the correction of habits of self-indulgence. A number of young men determined to go and live among them and to cultivate their friendship, and for several years they have conducted their experiment with fair success. They have secured a Guild-House of ample accommodation for social meetings, kindergarten, gymnasium, and dancing-school, and other means of bringing the people together under good auspices; and from the people themselves they get the money required to pay the most of the expense. They are cultivating the habits of self-reliance which will result in their doing it all for themselves, and in ceasing to depend on the richer wards for the means of social enjoyment and education. The Guild has no especial religious affiliations, is not a charity, and asks of the well-to-do chiefly practical help in the use of time and talent, rather than money.

There is a similar Guild in our own city, at Twenty-second and Vine streets, for the benefit of the factory population in the district below Fairmount, and it is doing excellent work on much the same lines. The managers hope to give it more and more of an educational character, and to enlist the services of the professors in the University and similar institutions within reach. Prof. Wilson of Bryn Mawr, and Dr. Falkner of the Wharton School, are already engaged in this noble coöperation. The work is done on the very best and most wholesome lines,—the recognition of neighborliness.

THE works of art presented at the inaugural exhibition of the Art Club receive consideration in another column. It is sufficient in this place to congratulate Philadelphia on the possession of so worthy an exponent of culture as the Art Club, and to congratulate the club management on the success attending the private view in the new galleries on Wednesday evening.

THE Penn Club's reception to Mrs. Merritt on Tuesday afternoon was one of those genuine tributes which are alike pleasurable to the person honored and to those who seek to honor. The Club's comfortable rooms were filled from five to six o'clock with representative men and women, anxious to show their respect for one whose reputation as an artist has helped to widen the fame of her native city.

In many ways the impersonation of *Julia* in "The Hunchback," as given by Miss Marlowe on Monday evening, is the most satisfactory one ever witnessed in this city. It is charmingly natural and tender, and the actress succeeds in investing the part with a certain human quality which in other hands has been con-

spicuously absent. But the same criticism which we last week passed upon Miss Marlowe's impersonation of Shakespearian character, applies to her work in the play of Sheridan Knowles. She has lost a little of her spontaneity, and although still delightfully naïve, brings to the footlights a flavor of the study lamp which we would rather miss.

* * *

THE amusement-seeker who desires contrast, can hardly do better than to see Herr Possart after having seen Miss Marlowe. He is the type of highly cultivated artist, as she of one moved by an innate dramatic perception and power. In "Die Bluthochzeit," Herr Possart has a play admirably adapted to his methods; he is cold at first, and approaches his climax by a regular and sure progression which carries his audience along, and every stage of which is the outcome of a careful and systematic study of artistic effect. Herr Possart's interpretation of the character of Charles IX. is admirable, and his scene with Catherine de Medici, in which the strength of the woman is brought into so vivid contrast with the vacillating weakness of the man, won a deserved applause. For his *Shylock*, presented on Tuesday evening, it may be said that it differs materially from the conception of many other great actors who have essayed the part. It is like neither Booth's nor Irving's Jew, and is inferior to both.

PARIS NOTES.

PARIS, December, 1889.

DOES it not seem strange in this era of raising statues to more or less celebrated men, that the intellectual giant named Honoré Balzac should have waited thirty-nine years before being thus honored by his native city? The idea of a statue to the author of the *Comédie Humaine* is, however, not new, and the day following his death, M. Etex, a sculptor of talent and a member of the Institute, offered to perpetuate the novelist's Rabelaisian features in bronze. Four years later, Alexander Dumas, the elder, wished to raise a monument to Balzac and Frédéric Soulié, but Mme. Balzac objected and the project was abandoned. While Mme. Balzac lived, the friends of the great writer hesitated to move in the matter, his widow seemed so jealous of the care of watching over his memory; but since her death, seven years ago, there has been more or less talk every year about placing a statue of the author of the *Comédie Humaine* on one of the principal squares of Paris. Last year the Municipal Council even allotted to a committee of the Authors' Society, which had taken the initiative of raising a memorial to Balzac, a site in the Palais-Royal garden, instead of authorizing its erection at the angle of the Avenue de Friedland and the rue Balzac, within site of where the author died and where it ought to be placed. This action of the Municipal Council has somewhat dampened the ardor of the Paris committee, but the project has not been abandoned. At Tours, however, on Sunday, the first statue erected in France to Balzac's memory was unveiled on the public square of the Court House, at the head of the rue Royale, in the centre of the city where the romancer was born in 1799; at the other end of the street are the statues of Descartes and Rabelais. So Tours, which Balzac himself called one of the least literary cities in France, has taken precedence over Paris in honoring the creator of the modern novel. The statue unveiled on Sunday is in bronze and is the work of M. Paul Fournier; it represents Balzac clothed in his celebrated monastic robe and seated in a chair, his body inclined to the left in a familiar attitude; in his right hand he holds the pen that has written so many masterpieces. For the head of the novelist, the sculptor has copied the bust made by David d'Angers, which is on Balzac's tomb in Père Lachaise cemetery, and which is considered to be the best existing likeness of the great writer. This ceremony at Tours seems to have stimulated the Paris committee, or at least its sculptor, M. Chapu, for it is now announced that he has finished his model for the marble statue destined for the Palais-Royal garden. M. Chapu's project consists of a rather low pedestal upon which Balzac, enveloped in his monk's robe, is seated; his arms are crossed, in a meditative mood, and in his hand he holds a pen. A female figure, symbolizing the *Comédie Humaine*, unmasking herself to his eyes while veiling her regards from the profane. The right lines of the pedestal are skillfully broken by a miniature stage, where some puppets are playing Balzac's comedy of "Mercadet," and by masks representing the novelist's principal characters. The model indicates that the work will be worthy of the great writer and of the eminent sculptor, and will increase the regrets that so poor a site has been selected for its resting place.

A seat at the Academy is still the object of nearly every French literary man's ambition, in spite of the raillery showered upon this venerable institution by the younger men of letters. But I do not remember to have ever noticed such unseemly haste as has been shown in the competition for M. Emile Augier's vacant chair. On the day of the late academician's funeral the literary men present

did not hesitate to discuss the chances of the various rival candidates, and some of them even allowed themselves to be interviewed on the subject. M. Zola was not one of the mourners, but his friends rushed into print as soon as they heard that M. Augier had drawn his last breath, while the novelist himself encouraged this haste by a "conversation" with an enterprising reporter. No one seriously believes that M. Zola has any chance at all—at least not for the present,—of becoming one of the forty immortals. He counts, perhaps, half a dozen advocates among the members—all those who wish to embêter Daudet, as one academician puts it—but he also counts a great many adversaries, and has not even public sentiment in his favor. The average reader cannot conceive the author of "Nana" becoming a colleague of the Bishop of Autun or of the Duc de Broglie and belonging to the committee which supervises the dictionary of the French language. The Academy is not only the first literary institution in the land; it is a salon, and to be received into it supposes the possession of certain social qualities which M. Zola, with all his acknowledged talent, lacks. M. Francisque Sarcey, who was a candidate almost assured of success, has withdrawn; there still remain M. Thureau-Dangin, author of a history of the July Monarchy, and who will have the support of the conservative, or "Dukes" party; M. André Theuriet, poet and romancer; M. Ferdinand Fabre, author of several remarkable studies of clerical life; M. J. J. Weiss, an accomplished critic; and the perpetual candidates as they are called M. Henri de Bornier and M. Eugène Manuel. With all these competitors it may happen that the coveted honor will fall to some one who to-day does not even suspect his future immortality.

The French civil tribunal has decided that a newspaper has no legal right to render an account of a play until after the first public performance. The decision was given in favor of Mr. Sardou, who brought an action two years ago (you see that French justice is not expeditious) against the *Gil Blas* newspaper for printing on the morning of the first performance of "La Tosca," a detailed analysis of the drama. Ordinarily, the critics are admitted to the dress-rehearsal of the important pieces, which usually precedes the public performance by twenty-four or forty-eight hours. It is, of course, understood that they are to say nothing about the play until after it has been given before the general public. Mr. Sardou has long been an opponent of open dress-rehearsals, and rarely agrees to have any one who is not connected with the theatre witness them. To punish him for this ostracism, the editor of the *Gil Blas* procured from some unfaithful employé a copy of the manuscript, from which the detailed analysis was made and published. The decision of the Court is, in substance, that a dramatic work belongs to the public only after it has been performed in public, the same as a literary work belongs to it only by the fact of its publication. If it were otherwise a writer would be at least hindered in his unquestioned right of making changes at the last moment. Moreover, a dramatic author whose work is divulged before it is ready, loses the benefit of the scenic effects, for the success of which he counts upon the curiosity of the public. Apropos of this decision, I may recall that owing to the indiscretion of a newspaper critic, the performance of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" was forbidden by the French government, which feared that the piece would trouble the good relation existing between France and the United States.

The accounts of the Exhibition have not yet been definitely verified, but it is known that there will be a profit of about 8,000,000 francs, if the State and city subsidies are counted; otherwise the loss will be 17,000,000 francs. The receipts amounted to 24,500,000 francs. The Credit Foncier paid 21,500,000 francs of the 30,000,000 that it received from the public for its Exhibition bonds; the surplus was kept to pay the prizes and expenses of the mission. The rents from the restaurants and other places let out produced 2,000,000 francs, and the sale of the material will, it is thought, realize another million. This makes a total of 24,500,000. On the other hand the Exhibition received a subsidy of 18,000,000 francs from the State and 7,000,000 from the city, which added to the 24,500,000 makes 49,500,000. The expenses, estimated at 43,000,000 francs, have not exceeded 41,500,000; so that the difference will be 8,000,000, to be divided between the State and the city. How these profits will be allotted it is not yet decided; neither is it settled what is to be done with the principal buildings on the Champ de Mars. An endeavor will be made to preserve the Machine Gallery, the Central dome and gallery, and the two fine arts palaces, all of which could serve for future exhibitions. Naturally, the park, which is in the square formed by all of these constructions except the Machine Gallery, will be kept as it is, as well as the luminous fountains. According to the proposed plan the rest of the Champ de Mars will be divided between the State and the city. The portion falling to the city would be improved by new gardens and shade trees, and could be used as public promenades for school children. For the Palace of the Liberal

Arts the government is favorable to converting it into a Museum of Public Services, each ministry contributing the collection shown at the Exhibition. No difficulty would be found concerning the use of the Palace of the Fine Arts, as it is already demanded by various institutions and societies. The Machine Gallery would be employed by the military authorities and also used for the exhibition of animals and the horticultural displays, which are now held in the Palais de l'Industrie, and which has become too small. There was a general impression that the Eiffel tower would continue to attract visitors after the close of the Exhibition, but this expectation has not been realized, and since the 6th ult. the crowd has dwindled down to nothing. M. Eiffel has, therefore, decided to close the tower to the public until spring. By that time the Champ de Mars will have been rearranged, and will then be an attractive spot for the Parisians on Sundays and holidays, and for foreign visitors at all times.

C. W.

MR. BROWNING'S DEATH: ESTIMATES OF HIS WORK.

THE world of literature was startled on Friday by the news that Robert Browning had died of acute bronchitis, on the preceding day,—December 13, at 10 p. m.,—at his residence in Venice. There had been no announcement of his illness, and the word came unexpectedly to all. The brief telegram stated that he died without any suffering, and that during the day he had expressed himself as satisfied with the success of his new volume of poems.

Mr. Browning was born May 7, 1812, at Camberwell, now a part of London, his father being a clerk in the Bank of England. He was educated in London, attending lectures at University College, and then traveled abroad. In 1846, he married Elizabeth Barrett, and they went to Florence to live, remaining there until her death in 1861. After that he made his home chiefly in London. His first work, "Pauline," was written at the age of nineteen, and published in 1833. His last, "Asolando," has just appeared. He leaves one son, Robert Barrett Browning, an artist, whose wife was an American, *née* Miss Coddington, of New York.

We present below some concise comments upon Mr. Browning's life work, contributed by several different admirers and students of his poetry.

Robert Browning is dead. The uses of the cup in time are ended, and the rare vessel of the Master perfected as far as may be by earth's handling. He waited age in earnest, robust doing, and welcomed death, we doubt not, in overcoming. And now that the voice of the singer is hushed, what of the music? What of the burden which the prophet had to deliver? As a versemaker, a mere melodist, Browning is, without question, negligent and unskillful; as a poetic artist he is a great master. This distinction involves the whole philosophy of style which we cannot here discuss; but this much in passing. If Art be the incarnation of sentiment, if the form that breathes is the word made flesh and so potentized for its mission, then the sensible shape is as the inward conception, the outward and visible sign must show at every point the informing spiritual power. Then why should a poet's numbers be easy and flowing, when the feeling is rugged and severe? We may not be in sympathy with the poet's matter but given this and his manner follows inevitably. One may say of Browning what Coleridge did of Shakespeare, "The intellectual power and the creative energy wrestle as in a war embrace and there is the jar and groaning of battle."

But I like best to think of Robert Browning as a great teacher, speaking with a voice of authority concerning things that pertain to man's highest interest, and above all, as the only really great poet of the Christian religion in the English language. I do not mean to say that there are not others whose writings are colored more or less vividly by Christian sentiment, but Browning is more. He is emphatically the expounder in verse of Christian doctrine, the revealer, through the concrete, of that system of spiritual education set forth by Jesus of Nazareth. He tears asunder all the swaddling bands of creeds and goes straight to the core of man's needs and destiny. Starting with the axiom of soul-existence, he shows how immortality is, and God and Christ must be. Involved in this is man's growth, spiritually. "Progress is man's distinctive mark alone, not God's and not the beasts," and this growth must be through imperfection and struggle. The help that sustains us in failure is the touch of life outside ourselves. "There subsists no law of life outside of life." By the necessity of God's nature revealed in love and the power of man to meet that love half-way, we are quickened and given a hold on eternal life. See the Christ stand! "Saul" is the one work into which the poet has put most of himself, and one may safely say of this, that it is the grandest argument ever penned for the necessity of the God-man. Life, struggle, immortality, and redemption through personality, are to my mind the prominent points of Browning's teaching, the

great truths of the New Testament revealed afresh by this latter-day prophet.

FRANCES E. BENNETT.

Ogontz, December 14.

To my mind the finest thing about Browning is that grand, far-reaching sympathy, with which he seems to comprehend all sorts and conditions of men. We have had no poet so myriad-minded since Shakespeare. This marvellous power is due, partly to his learning, obtained by wide reading and observation, but far more, I think, to that divine gift of insight, which belongs only to the highest genius and which defies all our power of analysis and all our theorizing as to its source. Unshrinking, he yet tenderly lays bare all human weakness. He recognizes as fully as does St. Paul the war of the flesh against the spirit. But even in the most debased he can see the divine. Hence he preaches everywhere the sweet evangel of charity. The taint of blood, the environment, the awful stress of circumstance—these must temper the severity of our judgments. As for cold, untempted, unforgiving Pharisees he says of them—

"Leave their honorable world to them. For God
We're good enough though the world cast us out."

When we come to the form in Browning, we find no poet more varied in the use of all the resources of his art. He has lyric strains that ring like a trumpet, and others soft and musical as Apollo's lute. Blank verse he has written worthy of the greatest masters of that stately measure.

As for the now stereotyped charge of obscurity in Browning's poetry, those who make it would seem either to be ignorant of, or at least to forget, the large amount of his work of a different sort. The total amount of his production is so great that the so-called obscure poetry of Browning might be omitted and he still be left in possession of a wealth of verse, direct and perspicuous enough to satisfy all demands in this regard. Indeed it is unfortunate that so many genuine lovers of poetry should be frightened off from Browning by this bugbear of obscurity; should fancy that they can afford to neglect the author of such exquisite poems as "In a Gondola," or "One Way of Love;" and such noble dramas as "Luria" and "A Blot in the 'Scutcheon.'" Much, too, of the so-called obscurity of Browning is but a surface difficulty. The mere form of his dramatic monologues has repelled many readers who might with a little application find the solution to their seeming mystery. Indeed it is surprising how difficulties vanish after a little patient effort on our part to get the secret of Browning's method. Then the reward is found so ample that we come finally to echo the enthusiasm of the admirer of "Master Hugues of Saxe Gotha—"

"Friend, his fugue taxes the finger.
Learning it once who would lose it?"

W. H. APPLETON.

Swarthmore College.

A response to THE AMERICAN'S request for an estimate of the work and influence of Browning involves an expression of opinion as to his probable place in the judgment of posterity, and every one familiar with the contemporary criticism upon the poets of a past generation must feel the utmost diffidence in attempting such an expression. Browning's figure is a large one and demands a long perspective; his is a complex personality, and it is more than doubtful whether his fame as a profound social philosopher will not overshadow his glory as a poet. But we must not forget that it is as poet that he has chosen to make his appeal to judgment, and we of to-day must apply our tests accordingly.

What, then, are his purely artistic merits and defects? How far has he seen fit to limit himself to the one supreme function of the poet,—the interpretation of the principle of beauty?

The answers are not far to seek. In the longer works,—notably in "Sordello" and "The Ring and the Book,"—he has completely discarded artistic restraint for the sake of voicing his social theories and setting forth his views of life and morality. More than half of the entire body of his work is mere philosophical disquisition, whose value is based upon its ethical purport, and whose mission would have been better accomplished had it been written in prose. It ought not to be considered at all in forming a critical estimate of Browning's artistic accomplishment.

On the other hand, he has produced shorter pieces, ("Pippa," "A Blot in the 'Scutcheon,'" the "Dramatic Lyrics," "Fra Lippo," and indeed nearly every poem in the volume of "Men and Women"), which are illumined by the fire of a splendid genius and replete with a beauty of thought and diction hardly excelled in the wide realm of English song.

As a writer, Browning combines a keen dramatic instinct with a prolixity fatal to dramatic effect; he startles us by verbal felicities gleaming like precious stones in a setting of false grammatical constructions and uncouth inversions. He vexes us to the limits of endurance, yet holds us by a charm which we cannot resist.

As a man, his influence has been, and will be, beneficent. He was the exponent of a noble optimism and a serene faith, and lived and worked on the lines of a broad humanity.

FRANCIS HOWARD WILLIAMS.

Criticism upon Robert Browning inevitably divides itself into three factors. The one is devoted to his philosophy, the next examines the combined product of his philosophy and poetry, or, as it is called, his philosophical poetry, and the last is concerned with his work as a poet pure and simple,—an imaginative artist in verse.

Browning's gift of genius, aided by multitudinous learning, achieved notable work in all these classes of literary creation. In his splendid middle period he carried forward the traditions of English art and added manifold riches to our noble heritage of poetry. In his early manhood and in his age, indeed throughout his career, he was a constant devotee at the oracle of Nature. He was curious about life and death and turned his inquiries into verse which may very justly be called philosophic poetry, though its method was distinctly not artistic.

An estimate of a poet's value to literature, where his achievements are equally eminent in all the branches he has essayed, must therefore concern itself with the relative value of the kinds and not with the mass of his work. It is distinctly not the mass of his work which influences for beauty and truth the opening generations. Waller, with his slender ditty to a rose, outlasts in name and influence the more profound Withers and Vaughns, even the Herberts of his day.

Which, then, is the most vital and precious gift of Robert Browning to the treasury of English literature; his philosophy, or his philosophical-poetics, or his poetry?

Among the score of thinkers who have stamped his age forever as one of thought rather than of ideality Browning is scarcely noted. He has had no distinctive system in an era of systems; his ideas are so vague that hardly two of his disciples render them alike. There is too large an infusion of the poet in his nature to admit of the direct dealing with facts which characterizes the philosopher; and this leads to the second contention of his critics that he is a philosophic poet. Now, if by such a term is meant one who teaches through an artistic—that is, indirect or symbolic—medium then Browning in this phase was not such a poet; if it means one who uses *poetry* as a vehicle for philosophy the answer is that the vehicle is not poetry and cannot be.

There remains, therefore, only the poetry itself, and that in its spontaneous directness, its dramatic vigor, its individuality of outlook upon life animate and inanimate; its large, hearty candor and love of humanity, and its technical beauty, its song and continuity of story,—is one of the rarest possessions of our own age, and will doubtless be among our worthiest hostages to the years to come.

HARRISON S. MORRIS.

I do not think that I can give a judgment of the Poet Browning that will be entitled to the space it would occupy,—especially when it is considered that so many very gifted critics in our own city have given to the study of his works more days and weeks than I have given hours. His best poems are, in my opinion, unsurpassed in our language; with his obscure and (to me) incomprehensible poems I have little patience; on the much larger body of his poems, which I have not read, I express no opinion.

H. L. WAYLAND.

The death of Robert Browning closes an old leaf and opens a fresh one for the discussion of the greatest literary problem of our age. For years past that solid and ever-increasing array of volumes which bear his name has afforded an ample battle-ground where every man's opinion has struggled as fiercely and as unreasonably with its neighbor as did the dragon-brood of Cadmus, and where the result has been infinitely less soothing and satisfactory to the survivors. From the single-voiced enthusiast who cries piercingly in our ears, "There is no poet but Browning, and I am his prophet," to the disaffected and malignant rebel who traces back all our lyrical short-comings to the Pandora box which Browning opened; from the untiring treasure-seeker who digs patiently and toilsomely for every shining bit of Sordello-gold, to the complacent dilettanti who finds some of the shorter poems pleasant reading for idle hours—what strange and hopeless views are submitted for our recognition! And now that Mr. Browning is dead, his work ended, and the curtain down, there are many thoughtful people who feel that criticism must begin all over again, starting from a new basis, with more light and less heat, with more moderation and less personal sentiment, with more perception and fewer foregone conclusions; and that this criticism of the future, handled by the ablest of Matthew Arnold's successors, will separate the wheat from the chaff, and give to us who wait and listen, the golden harvest of the great

master's toil. We cannot glean thus in a poet's lifetime, nor while his memory lives vividly in our midst; but, with each new year that passes lightly over his uncrowned sleeping head, there comes a broader, fuller light upon the written page. We know "Endymion" now for what it is, and "Adonais," and "The Ancient Mariner;" and we have learned to put quietly aside much that seemed to other generations finer grain than these. The enormous bulk of Mr. Browning's writings, the flame which burns unevenly on every page, the strength of genius, the weakness of waywardness, all make the task of criticism as difficult as it is needful, a task not to be lightly self-imposed, nor offered with too cheerful confidence to an awaiting world.

AGNES REPPLIER.

"So Robert Browning is dead, and has left no explanation of those poems!" This genuine exclamation probably expresses what the majority feel with regard to the greatest poet of our generation. In spite of the widening circle of interest in the last fifteen years, he still is "not understood of the people." Will he ever be so? Shakespeare finds ten times the response in our age that he did in his own; Ben. Jonson has gone the other way. May not the twentieth century find Browning more modern than we do, and Tennyson less so? It is a difficult question, because its answer depends upon the extent to which Browning has really reached the heart of things in his verse, and has anticipated the thoughts to which his own generation is working and reaching. It is one which time must try, and certainly no admirer of our poet will be content with anything less for him than the most genuine popularity. For after all that is the test of genuine poetry. It is the possession of the people. It comes out of the heart of its own generation through some one mind, who is the fittest interpreter of what that generation is trying to say. And it reaches the generations to come because it is felt to be the creation not of that mind as an isolated intellect, but through its subtle sympathy with all the minds of the time.

It is predicted that Browning will not live because "he lacks form." I am not aware of this defect in him. It is true that his form is not that he might have learned by imitating the great masters of verse from Homer on. It also is true that he has not Tennyson's delicate ear for the harmonies of English verse. But his poems have organic unity, which is the essential element of literary form. They have beginning, middle, and end, and movement from first to last. They are not formed like a statue, but like a tree, or like the human shape divine. They are organic.

It cannot be said that Browning dies when his best work was no longer possible to him. His last volumes are as genuine contributions to poetry as any that preceded. He was still in the prime of his powers. His "Fertile Fancies," "Parleyings with Certain People of Importance," and his just published "Asolando" are works which no lover of his writings would have missed. But every one will have his favorites among his works. "Men and Women" will always be the dearest to me, as it was this that came like a new revelation to me when a college student. Next to that the two Balaustion poems as containing Browning's philosophy of history. Last the wonderful "Ring and the Book," in which the dramatic power of the author is subjected to the severest test ever poet imposed upon his own genius, and with a success even his enemies had to confess.

It may be thought professional, but I honor in Robert Browning a Christian who avowed his faith in any proper connection, and who has made a grand contribution to the theological as well as the poetical literature of his age. "Saul," "Christmas-day and Easter-Eve," "The Strange Experiences of an Arab Physician," "A Death in the Desert," "Cleone," and the old Pope who passes final judgment on Pompilia's murderer are among the profoundest writing on religious subjects this generation has to show, and if I am not mistaken the Church will find more to learn from him in this field than it has yet taken to heart. This least conventional of our poets, who had learnt from Shelley reverence for the great and purifying passions, rather than the respectabilities of the world, has found the greatest and most purifying of these in the life to God awakened in men through Jesus Christ. I cannot recommend his poems to those who identify Christianity with the propitities, timidities, and conservatism which have been hedged about it to save what must save us, if it be worth anything. But his message will find those to whom it is sent, as the latest declaration that the Gospel is right in the line of that great development of free personality, which constitutes the gain of the human race in its historical advance.

ROBT. ELLIS THOMPSON.

The death of Browning in Venice, amid the scenes which have so often been his inspiration, makes a final link in the chain which binds this Englishman to Italy. Browning loved the land of his adoption as fervently as did Dante or Leopardi. His

sympathy helped to keep alive the flame of Nationality through the dark hours of Austrian domination, till at last the sun of Italy rose upon the world:

"Italy, my Italy!
Queen Mary's saying serves for me:
Open my heart and you will see,
Graven inside of it, 'Italy.'"

Browning has made his own place among our great poets. Like Wagner in music he has not been content to confine himself within the classic forms: abandoning the monotone of melody, he has attempted—not always with success—the wider possibilities of harmony. He has won his hearing in spite of the critics, and there is evidence that his triumph in the next generation will be as decisive as Wagner's has been in our own.

Browning delights in calling himself a dramatic poet; yet he is much closer to Dante than to Shakespeare,—closer even than is Milton himself. The similarity, both in life and works, between Dante and Milton, is obvious; but there is another side of Dante which is absolutely blank in Milton. The "Vita Nuova" brings us face to face with the lover of Beatrice; we see that other side of the moon, where, "amid silver lights and darks undreamed of, we hush and bless ourselves with silence."

The inner life of Browning affords the true parallel to that of Dante: his relationship to Elizabeth Browning realized Dante's vision of union with Beatrice. Mrs. Browning is not a palpable presence throughout his poems; like Beatrice in the "Convito" and the "Divina Commedia" hers is the presence of a good diffused, a power which makes for Hope, here and hereafter.

If Browning's speculations took shape in "The Ring and the Book" in place of a "Divine Comedy," the result is largely due to the difference in environment. Dante lived when architect and artist were dedicating their genius to a living Church: how can our age of doubt and disbelief bring forth the flower and fruit of a Renaissance?

Browning's sphere has been inevitably contracted, through his consciousness of the limitations drawn around it by the modern philosophy and science; but in place of being a tame prize in the paddock of the pessimists, he is more optimistic than even Tennyson. He has a virile faith in humanity,—a faith which is a potent factor in bringing about that betterment in which he believes.

An heroic life has closed in the fullness of its days; with no period of waning, like a star at its setting, it has passed away. Two nations will mourn at the grave in the Florentine churchyard, where Browning will be laid, by his wife's side, within the fold and among the people of his great predecessor.

Onorate l'altissimo poeta.

CARROLL SMYTH.

REVIEWS.

A LITTLE JOURNEY IN THE WORLD. By Charles Dudley Warner. New York: Harper & Bros. 1889.

THE admirers of Mr. Warner have had to rub their eyes and take a fresh look at the successive installments of this novel appeared in *Harper's*. It is a new departure for him. He has been known as a writer of keen insight, and his style has charmed unflinching for more reasons than one could count on one's fingers. Perhaps the main and the most comprehensive characteristic we could assign to his writing is that of an exquisitely sympathetic humor, just dashed with an exquisitely gentle cynicism. This pervades all his writings, and has the effect of producing an impression of personal acquaintance on the mind of the reader,—and of acquaintance with a very delightful personality. All this is true in an even greater degree of the present work than of most of his others, but in this he has added a quality so new to him that its appearance is startling. This book treats a social and psychological problem with a realism which is more than that of the realists, and a power which makes us inclined to assign it a rank high among the great novels of the century. The addition of this new element produces a strange and not altogether admirable mingling of styles of fiction, if we may so express it, and the work is vulnerable in many points to people of many standpoints, but the impression of its vitality grows steadily on the reader through and despite its faults.

The two main figures of the book are placed in the centre with admirable artistic directness, and the drama hinges directly on them from the first. Rodney Henderson is a young Vermonter of fine powers and easy conscience, who goes to New York and rapidly and surely rises toward the top in the Wall street world, helped on by his wonderful faculty of good fellowship and personal charm, and never hindered by over-scrupulousness in his use of means to attain his ends. Margaret Debee is a New England girl of semi-Puritanic antecedents and cultured surroundings, whose pure instincts and clear moral discernment are first affected, and finally obscured, or, one might almost say, annihilated, by her meeting

and falling in love with, and marrying Rodney Henderson. The annoyance which she at first feels at his (to her) indefinite and suspicious business is increased by a talk, which she takes part in, among her home circle, about railroad wrecking, and the height of abhorrence of such things to which she is thus raised measures the depth of her final descent. She is powerfully, irresistibly, attracted to Henderson by the same qualities which place the world as a whole at his feet, and her moral atrophy begins in her shutting her eyes to her scruples and marrying him. He takes her to a luxurious establishment in New York, and his wealth and popularity open to her numerous social opportunities which she is by nature fitted to enjoy, and which come to take her whole time, energy, and sympathy. Her feeling of separation from her clear-eyed and true-hearted home circle in the Massachusetts country town grows; her acceptance of the standards which her associates use become more fixed; she feels less and less inclination to inquire into her husband's operations. One crisis comes when her husband in one of his railroad operations ruins one of her former dearest friends, but after a fierce outburst she yields to his "standpoint," and considers her friend a base ingrate for not accepting a check from Henderson for the amount of her loss as full reparation. From this time on she loses rapidly the last vestiges of her nobleness in her social ambitions, until she truly becomes, as Mr. Warner says, a dead soul, and the reader feels only relief when death takes her off the page.

Mr. Warner's setting forth the minutiae of these processes, on the fidelity of the rendering of which the convincing power of the novel depends, is neither so graphic as Mr. Howells's work is, nor does it leave on the mind the effect of a *non-sequitur*, as does a bare abstract like the above. He makes a story which shows adequate motive at every stage, but he supplies the motive very much by what he tells us of how the characters feel, and in some places we think not sufficiently by what he makes the actual situation contain. But his lapses in this direction are not important, and we think his work as a whole preferable to a stricter realism. The imagination can supply the details if it is made to feel that the course of the story shows the essential truth of the situation. And that Mr. Warner does show the essential truth of the situation we think every reader's conscience must bear him witness as he goes along. We have all of us been in the world long enough to learn part of the lesson that the bad and the charming are awkwardly mixed,—and Mr. Warner strengthens his hold on the essential truth of the situation by having them very much mixed indeed. One of the most charming creatures in a certain way that we ever met in fiction is a certain Miss Carmen Eschelle who appears in this book, who is rich, beautiful, clear-sighted, original, full of unexpected turns and studied naïveté, but whose make-up includes not the vestige of a principle. Mr. Warner has lavished his care and invention on this creature, and she has repaid his care by the result. Many of the other characters that take part in the drama of Margaret's downfall are not half bad as people go, and are very engaging in their various ways. He has done them all substantial justice, and in drawing the picture of this awful tragedy he has touched with an even hand the foibles and redeeming virtues of a rich, talented, and luxurious society,—"nothing extenuating nor setting down aught (or rather, very little) in malice."

As for the theme of business morals which he has touched—the question of the right or wrong of certain Wall street operations—we hope the book may preach powerfully. The subject can hardly be too much ventilated before the public. Only the other day the newspapers brought intelligence of a contest in the courts based on a scheme which might have been the original of Rodney Henderson's operation. There is nothing of didacticism in the book, in the literary sense, but it is strongly and awfully true, and should preach the lesson which the facts of life always do preach when squarely faced.

A. J. F.

THE HERMITAGE, AND LATER POEMS. By Edward Rowland Sill. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1889.

It is not often that one lays down a volume of contemporary verse feeling at once rested, refreshed, and stirred. This little collection of Mr. Sill's latest verses is all winnowed grain. His originality is not that of a brilliant imagination, or a great gift of musical expression, but of a finely cultivated, deeply receptive mind, which, though it has been stimulated and fed by the best thoughts of other men, yet gives out a flower of its own of distinct individuality. In almost every page there is some thought, strong, graceful, or sympathetic, which we can mark as not belonging to the great general poetic stock, which is but retouched and remoulded in so much verse. By his death we have lost a clear voice, that could speak to us by the wayside in deep, musical tones, and touch with fresh beauty and earnestness thoughts that are thrust into forgetfulness in the preoccupations of every-day life. There are many passages we would gladly quote for the

pleasure of our readers, but we can only find space for two, one from "The Hermitage," expressing the great half truth that only in silence and solitude can man attain his highest spiritual and intellectual growth, forgetting for a moment the other half, that only by human sympathy and love can the perfect moral and mental whole be completed:—

"Man rises best alone:
Upward his thoughts stream, like the leaping flame,
Whose base is tempest-blown;
Upward and skyward, since from thence they came,
And thither they must flow.
But when in twos we go,
The lightnings of the brain weave to and fro,
Level across the abyss that parts us all;
If upward, only slantwise, as we scale
Slowly together that night-shrouded wall
Which bounds our reason, lest our reason fail.
If linked in threes, and fives,
However heavenward the spirit strives,
The lowest stature draws the highest down,—
The king must keep the level of the clown."

The other is from the "Polar Sea: "

"Far from our life away
Roll the dark waves, for age,
Of an Eternity,
Silently, awfully.
Round it on every hand
Death's icy barriers stand
Guarding this silent sea
Grimly, invincibly.
Never there man hath been
Who could return again,
Telling to mortal ken
What is within the sea
Of that Eternity.
"Terrible is our life—
In its whole blood-written history
Only a feverish strife;
In its beginning, a mystery—
In its wild ending, an agony.
Terrible is our death—
Black-hanging cloud over Life's setting
sun,
Darkness of night when the daylight is
done.
In the shadow of that cloud,
Deep within that darkness' shroud,
Rolls the ever-throbbing sea;
And we—all we—
Are drifting rapidly
And floating silently
Into that unknown sea—
Into Eternity."

THIERS. By Paul de Remusat, Senator. Translated by Melville B. Anderson. [The Great French Writers. VI.] Pp. 243. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.

The little Provençal who became the first president of the Third Republic is quite as much a political as a literary eminence. It is as the former that M. Remusat especially considers him, as the very headings of the chapters show. It is not so much the historian of the Revolution and the Empire, as the French statesman and orator that he is described here, so that the book does not fit very well into the series.

Thiers was a less brilliant Voltaire, adapting himself to the post-Revolution period. As he told the Republicans of 1848, he always was a man of the Revolution, but he wanted to see the government of the Revolution in the hands of moderate men. His first programme was the imitation of England so far as this was compatible with French conditions. "Let us cross the Channel, not the Atlantic," he said. He may be said to have anticipated the programme of 1830 in his very first utterances on political questions, when he was earning fame as a political journalist in Paris. Yet he hesitated for a time about throwing his influence on the side of the Orleanist monarchy, and he cannot be acquitted of the blunder of working with other Frenchmen of talent for the overthrow of that monarchy by their joint onslaught on the ministry of M. Molé in 1837. The Revolution of 1848 was anything but welcome to him. He distrusted democracy, and regarded its strides with painful apprehension. He begged its representatives, if they must cross the Atlantic, to take care that North, not South America, should be their model.

But the *coup d'état* brought him almost despair. For eleven years he was out of public life, and labored for the redemption of France only with his pen and in the salons of Paris. Then he entered the Corps Legislatif as the representative of Paris, to spend the most glorious years of his life in denouncing and exposing the political and economic blunders of the Second Empire. His was almost the only great voice the third Napoleon could not silence in France. And his speeches, while full of official deference

to the Empire as a *de facto* government, were fatal exposures of the ignorance, the recklessness, and the hollowness of the imperial policy. The grandest of them was that which the constant interruptions from both Radicals like Gambetta and Imperialists like Ollivier robbed of all pretense to literary form. It was when he stood up solitary and unsupported to denounce the proposal of a war with Germany in 1870. It was the heroic moment of his life, and France soon had such bitter reason to recognize the truth of his warnings, that it was he alone on whom she would lean after the collapse of her powers. His choice as the first head of the new Republic was a deserved honor, and just as undeserved was the opposition which drove him from power and brought the Republic to the verge of a restoration under the *drapeau blanc* of Henri V.

But his greatest monument is his two great histories of the Revolutionary period. M. Remusat should have given more space to them, and should have entered more fully into the question how far he and Berauger contributed to the establishment of the Second Empire by their praises of the First. But he has given us the first readable biography of the notable statesman, and Mr. Anderson has translated it into excellent English. But does the expression on page 36 not convey the idea that Thiers wrote an article on Cologne Cathedral apart from his review of Boisserée's book?

THE LILY AMONG THE THORNS. A Study of the Biblical Drama entitled "The Song of Songs." By William Elliot Griffis, D. D. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

The average man, if he have given any thought to the matter, is tempted to wish that "The Song of Songs" never had appeared in the Bible. It has been the warrant for an effusive, feminine, and almost erotic style of writing and preaching, which is most offensive to good taste, and out of keeping with the dignity and reserve of the Scriptures. And it has also been treated by one school of theologians as the warrant for that notion of the marriage of the individual soul to God or to Christ, which has done so much to confuse moral distinctions and degrade human relationships. Yet it must be said that the book itself warrants neither of these abuses. Its language is entirely appropriate to its proper theme, as the expression not of a mystical and spiritual passion, but of one entirely human and pure. It is only by unwarranted allegorizing that it has been converted into anything else. And as the notion of the mystical marriage of the soul found no sanction in any other part of the Bible, so it has none here.

It is difficult to ascertain the exact significance of the book, or to say what moved the authorities of the Hebrew Church to admit it into the Canon,—in which they assigned it a place in the lowest class. Charles Kingsley in "Hypatia" declares that it is Solomon's recantation of polygamy and discovery of the blessings of monogamic love. And it is noticeable that after the reign of that much married king, polygamy is rarely mentioned in the Old Testament, and seems to have died out of Jewish practice. Dr. Griffis, however, agrees with the majority of the later critics in assigning the poem to a later age than that of Solomon, and in regarding his appearance in the book as dramatic only. He thinks it the work of a later and a northern poet, who sets forth the faithfulness of an Ephraimite girl to her northern lover amid the enticements of the royal harem at Jerusalem, and of her final reunion to her lover. He takes the Revised Version and breaks it up into the speeches of a drama, assigning their parts to the Shulamite, the king, the ladies of the harem, and the Shulamite's brothers and her lover. This makes it easier to assign a sense and meaning to each part, which shall fit into his interpretations of the whole. But we doubt its rightfulness. The poem impresses us as a series of lyrics, a song made up of songs (*shir ha-shirim*), and we doubt if the Hebrews of that date had reached the conception of dramatic poetry. He suggests that the same poet wrote the lament of David over Jonathan. We think it much more likely that he wrote the XVth Psalm, the epithalamium of Ahab and Jezebel.

Dr. Griffis makes his interpretation the text for wholesome teaching on the sanctity of marriage, and the sacredness of the monogamic love which underlies true marriage.

THE SCOTCH-IRISH IN AMERICA. Proceedings of the Scotch-Irish Congress at Columbia, Tenn., May 8-11, 1889. Cincinnati: Robert Clarke & Co.

This handsome volume is the first literary evidence that the Scotch-Irish of America are becoming aware of themselves, unless we accept the large pamphlet by Mr. George Chambers on "The Scotch-Irish of Pennsylvania," published some twenty years back at Chambersburg. No element in American history has been more important than this, and none has received less attention from its historians. In view of this fact a considerable amount of vaunting is pardonable, and of course the speakers come fairly up to

their allowance. Neither the Scotch substratum nor the Irish superstructure is in the way of that. But brag is a good deal more tolerable, especially in such a publication as this, than the cool assumption in grave histories that the whole of American history was transacted in the immediate vicinity of Boston, or the studied depreciation of such men as John Dickinson and Charles Thomson in books which aspire to a permanent place in our literature.

As instances of overstatement we notice the claim that Witherspoon—who never set foot in Ireland—Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, and Grant were of Scotch-Irish stock. It is not improbable that Madison was, but it is not made out; and the claim as regards the others is flatly contradicted by their biographers. *So also Stonewall Jackson was not; his family came from the north of England. Nor are we clear that any case can be made as regards Chief Justice Marshall, who is said by his latest biographer to be of Welsh descent.

Of the addresses the best is by Dr. John Hall, who describes the race as it exists at home, with quiet hints against Home Rule. It is a pity Dr. Hall made no reference to the heroic part it played in the United Ireland movement of 1795-8, whose failure gave America some of the most illustrious of her immigrants from Ulster. Of greater historical value are Dr. Wm. Weir Henry's address on "The Scotch-Irish of the South," and Dr. C. D. Kelley's on "The Scotch-Irish of Tennessee." Both would have gained much by excision, as would Professor McCloskey's on "What the Scotch-Irish Have Done for Education." It seems to be a characteristic of the race that they are pretty sure to amplify their subject. Dr. McCloskey rushes back to Patrick, the Culdees, and Ireland as the land of schools, and John Scotus Erigena, as though these stood in any known relation to the colony planted by King James in Ulster,—a colony chiefly of Saxon Scots, with a sprinkling of mixed Celts and Norsemen bearing Celtic names.

The chief defect of the book is one that can be remedied next time. It is the absence of a separate paper on the Scotch-Irish of Pennsylvania, the commonwealth in which they have played the greatest part and have exercised the greatest influence on the nation. But whoever writes it should "paint the warts" also. Unqualified eulogy, undiluted praise, is not history, and the Scotch-Irish have their faults, which nowhere find clearer illustration than in the history of our own State.

SFORZA: A STORY OF MILAN. By William Waldorf Astor. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1889.

The story of Milan was for a century, like that of so many other Italian states, the story of its ruling family. Mr. Astor has chosen for the theme of his tale the closing fortunes or rather misfortunes of Ludovico, the next to the last of his race to hold the duchy. In him still survived some of the vigor of the peasant founder of the race, whose mighty axe-stroke had decided his fate, and made him, first a soldier of fortune, then one of the most powerful of the Italian *condottieri*, and founder of a ducal line. Ludovico was himself a usurper, for he seized the power at the end of his regency, having disposed of his nephew in a manner only too common among uncles in those days, and imprisoned the wife and child.

But the wife was the daughter of the King of Naples, and to avert the vengeance of this prince, Ludovico laid Italy open to the scourge of the French invasion, a crime which recoiled disastrously upon himself, for Louis XII. drove him twice from his duchy, and then held him in close captivity till his death, ten years afterwards. Almost any page one might turn in the marvellous history of Italy through three centuries offers the same elements of courage and crime, prisons and thrones. Ludovico seems to be intended to be the central figure of the picture, yet he is not planted firmly on his feet, as French people say. The foreground of the picture always seems a little empty as if a place were being kept for some one who never comes to fill it. Mr. Astor is well read in the history of the period, and one feels his familiarity with Italy; his style is less ponderous than formerly; some of his episodes are well told, and after the first few chapters the story does not drag, but there is a want of centralization, of concentration in the grouping of the figures, of firmness of grasp and directness of purpose in the story that detracts from its effectiveness. Mr. Astor is more fortunate this time in his choice of a subject than in his last novel.

THE LAST ASSEMBLY BALL, AND THE FATE OF A VOICE. By Mary Hallock Foote. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

Mrs. Foote has an intimate knowledge of the West, and shows a sure dramatic touch in putting before us its contrasts with Eastern life. In the first part of these two stories she has seized an interesting situation and worked it out into a somewhat too hopeless tragedy. Every wave of emigration to the mining-towns in the new territories must have carried along with it hundreds of

young men from happy and cultivated homes in the East, who, after enjoying comforts and luxuries all their lives suddenly found themselves sleeping on barrels and obliged to brandish frying-pans in their own behalf, or accept the alternative of living on crackers and canned meats. It is to do good and to make profit out of such masculine necessities that Mrs. Dausken, an enterprising and attractive young widow, sets up a boarding-house in Leadville, in its early days, which is to insure to these adventurous youths who have gone West to make money, all the comforts of a home. One of these is Frank Embury, a very pretty young fellow, who has sought the mining-region to find relief for an unlucky love affair. His fate pursues him, and he soon loses his heart to Milly, a pretty and mysterious stranger whom the landlady has taken as waitress. The situation becomes painfully complicated. Frank finding the object of his affections forced into a doubtful position, marries her; then discovering that Milly has deceived him, fights a duel and is killed in a way which is equivalent to his committing suicide.

The story is prettily told, but in an amateurish way. There is no inevitableness about the tragedy, and Frank Embury seems only weak and cowardly in his resolution to end his life. The second story, "The Fate of a Voice," although shorter and slighter than the first, is really the better of the two.

AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.

THE general impression is that "Lorna Doone" is Mr. Blackmore's best book by far. The author, however, considers "Alice Lorraine" his best work.

D. C. Heath & Co. will issue at once Hoffman's "Tales from History," and Freytag's "*Aus dem Staal Friedrich des Grossen*," with notes by Herman Hager.

A process has been invented by means of which photographs can be printed almost as fast as a newspaper, and without dependence on sun or light. They are said to be of the first quality. That of course would make illustration by photographs much cheaper.

An interesting book with the title "Days with Industrials" is soon to be issued by Scribner & Welford. It treats of curious and out-of-the-way things, such as the arsenic and quinine industries, etc.

Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. will publish at an early day a brochure by Prof. E. N. Horsford, on "The Discovery of the Ancient City of Norumbega." The substance of the book was communicated to the President and Council of the American Geographical Society at a special session last November. In addition to the historical address, there will be photographs of the site of the ancient city, sixteen maps from Icelandic sources down to the United States Coast Survey, and the original map of the valley of the Charles River from Stony Brook to Cambridge.

L. Schick of Chicago has disposed of his retail business, and will devote himself exclusively to publishing. He resumes the publication of his "Overland Library," "Collection Shick," and "*Humoristische Bibliothek*."

The Bancroft-Whitney Company, San Francisco, have just issued the first two volumes of Lawson's "Rights, Remedies, and Practice." The work, which is to be completed in seven volumes, issued at the rate of one a month, does not deal in theories, but is written for the practical every-day use of the profession.

Messrs. Little, Brown & Co. issue the initial volumes of the "Valois Romances" of Dumas. The opening one is a translation of "*La Reine Margot*."

The Boston *Advertiser* thinks the best made books are manufactured in Boston. The work of New York, it says, is the more pretentious, but not as good. It makes an exception of "The Quiet Life" of Abbey and Parsons, published by Harpers.

Austin Dobson's Poems, which have heretofore been issued by Henry Holt & Co., have changed publishers, and now appear in two volumes, with the imprint of Dodd, Mead & Company. They have been made to correspond with the new edition just issued in London, and Mr. Dobson has added a number of poems which now see the light for the first time.

Sampson Low & Co. will publish early in the coming year William Black's new novel, "The New Prince Fortunatus."

Lord Tennyson's volume will be a small one, containing twenty-eight poems, most of which are very short. They include "The Throstle" and verses on Queen Victoria's Jubilee and on the Marquis of Dufferin.

Several important manuscripts, showing Kant's struggle with the royal censor at Berlin in 1792, have recently been discovered in the University Library of Rostock. Professor Dilthey has undertaken the editorship of the papers.

Wilkie Collins left his "Blind Love" about three-fourths completed, although he had drawn up an elaborate synopsis of the concluding portion, which Walter Besant has undertaken to use in completing the work. In England, as well as here, the demand for Collins's stories has greatly increased since his death.

Rev. Dr. Driver, whose notes on Samuel are nearly ready for publication, is preparing an "Introduction to the Study of the Old Testament." Such a book from a competent hand is much needed.

Rev. P. Hay Hunter has in press in London the first volume of a work, "After the Exile," treating of Jewish history and literature during the century following the Babylonian captivity.

The new edition of Darwin's "Naturalist's Voyage Round the World," which Mr. John Murray has in the press, will be of unusual interest. Mr. Pritchett, who has made more than one voyage round the world, has designed a series of illustrations for it. They have been made on the spot, and consist of views of the places visited and representations of the animals described. Such an addition ought to lend a new attraction to one of the most interesting and readable books of popular scientific travel ever published.

Mr. J. A. Symonds expects to write a book this winter on George Jenatsch and his part in the Thirty Years War. Jenatsch was the national hero of Gränbunden, and Mr. Symonds in his enthusiasm calls him another Samson.

Mr. Murray has made arrangements to republish in England (with some abbreviation of the opening chapters) the American book which Mr. Gladstone reviews in the "Noticeable Books" article in this month's *Nineteenth Century*. It is "The Memorials of a Southern Planter," by his daughter, Mrs. Smedes (Baltimore). The planter in question, Thomas Dabney, was "worthy," says Mr. Gladstone, to sit with Sir Percival at the 'table round' of King Arthur."

Mr. Homer Greene, of Honesdale, Pa., author of "The Blind Brother," etc., lost the manuscript of a new novel at the destruction of the Crowell establishment in the recent fire in Boston. It was in the desk of Mr. N. H. Dole, the "reader" of the firm. And Mr. Dole was equally unfortunate, losing in the same fire a book of his own upon which he had expended months of labor.

Henry S. Frieze, LL. D., Professor of Latin and Dean of the Faculty of the University of Michigan, died December 7, aged 72 years; he was well known as editor of excellent editions of Virgil and Quintilian.—Wm. Francis Allen, Professor of Ancient Languages and History in the University of Wisconsin, died on the 9th instant, aged 59 years. He was the author of "History Topics," and "Guide to English History," and published a collection of "Slave Songs of the United States."

The Scribners will shortly publish "Said in Fun," a collection of witty sayings of the late Philip H. Welch, with much unpublished matter and numerous drawings by humorous artists.

The London *Athenaeum* makes reference by no means complimentary to "a piratical American reprint" of Fitzgerald's "Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam," which it seems is making its way into England.

Messrs. Baker & Taylor are about to publish the proceedings of the Boston Conference of the Evangelical Alliance, under the title, "National Needs and Remedies."

It is said that six novels by popular writers of fiction are to be published the coming year, based, like "Ben Hur," on scenes and incidents of the Bible. Joshua, David, St. John, St. Paul, and other Bible personages are to figure in these novels.

"A Text-Book of Pathology," by Prof. Hamilton of Aberdeen, is the latest systematic contribution to this foundation of practical medicine. Messrs. Macmillan have just brought out the first volume of Prof. Hamilton's work.

The J. G. Cupples Co. have in press "Vigilante Days and Ways; or, The Pioneers of the Rockies," being sketches of the makers and making of Montana, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming, by Nathaniel Pitt Langford. It will be in two volumes, illustrated.

Rev. A. E. Winship, editor of the *Journal of Education* has a book nearly ready in the press of D. Lothrop & Co., entitled, "The Shop."

Thomas Whittaker will publish in two volumes the "Lectures on Systematic Theology" lately delivered by Prof. Buel at the General Theological Seminary, New York.

In 1789 the Methodist Episcopal Church appointed John Dickens of Philadelphia as book-agent. Mr. Dickens began business on \$600 capital, and was at once successful. In 1804 the business was removed to New York, and Ezekiel Cooper was made agent. He resigned in 1809, leaving a business worth \$145,000. The Methodist Book Concern, which has just taken possession of

its immense new building at Fifth Avenue and Twentieth street, New York, is to-day a power in the land, issuing innumerable books, various periodicals, including *The Christian Advocate*, and doing a business of over \$1,000,000 a year.

A "History of American Literature," by Carl Knortz of New York, will be published shortly in Berlin by Hans Lustenoder.

The real name of "Marie Corelli," the writer of several successful novels, is Minnie Mackay, and she is the daughter of Dr. Charles Mackay.

The Harris Publishing Company will publish this month the first part of an important work on "Fish and Fishing in America," by Wm. C. Harris, editor of *The American Angler*.

Travelers on the Nile will be glad to learn that the second volume of "Baedeker's Guide Book to Egypt" is at last about to appear. It will be devoted to Upper Egypt, and it is the work of Prof. Eisenlohr the well known Egyptologist.

The effect of the Belford-Clarke failure, says the *Publishers' Weekly*, is beginning to show itself. The agents of this house, in order to realize some money we presume, are slaughtering their stock at a great rate. The other booksellers, unfortunately, are following suit, so that, as a correspondent informs, "books can be bought to-day cheaper in San Francisco than in New York."

In addition to the various relatives of popular authors who are about to make attempts in literature, as noted by us, reference may be made to a brother of Edward Bellamy, Mr. Charles Bellamy, a lawyer of Boston, who is arranging to publish a novel called "An Experiment in Marriage."

Mr. H. S. Salt of London, has undertaken to write a new life of Thoreau, and assistance has been afforded him by H. G. O. Blake, the custodian and editor of Thoreau's journals, F. B. Sanborn, and by T. W. Higginson. New interest in Thoreau has of late been shown in England; volumes of his writings having been issued there in popular editions.

A selection of ballads, lyrics, etc., from the works of Longfellow will be issued soon as a volume in the "Golden Treasury" Series.

John P. Morton & Co., Louisville, have in preparation a work on "Kentucky Jurisprudence," by Lewis N. Dembitz of the Louisville bar.

Charles L. Webster & Co. have just ready Mark Twain's new book "A Connecticut Yankee at King Arthur's Court," illustrated by Daniel Beard.

D. Appleton & Co. will publish at once a text-book for manual training by Dr. Ivin Sickels, called "Exercises in Wood Working."

According to Mr. Robert Buchanan, the Ibsenite craze is already beginning to "go the way of blue china, of the *rondelette*, of all the other enthusiasms of Folly." But the statement is hardly borne out by the fact that Mr. Walter Scott is about to publish a complete edition of Ibsen's prose plays—historical as well as social. The first volume, containing "The Young Men's League," "The Pillars of Society," and "A Doll's House," will appear early in January.

A reissue of Buxton Forman's edition of Keats is announced in London, embodying all the fresh material which has accrued since 1883, when the four volumes first appeared.

In the case of Otto Chils against Gustave A. Gronlund and the Scandinavian and Finlanders' Emigrant Company, Limited, for damages for the infringement of a copyright of a Swedish-English dictionary, on trial in New York, in the United States Circuit Court before Judge Wheeler and a jury, a verdict was rendered last week in favor of the plaintiff for \$2,500 damages and all copies of the infringing book found in the possession of the defendants.

PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

THE public are beginning to reap the fruits of Mr. Howard Pyle's visit some months ago to the West India islands. He furnishes a frontispiece illustration for the January *Harper's*, the subject being a scene in a story by Lafcadio Hearn, of the great insurrection in Martinique; and he also has in the same issue the first of two papers on "Jamaica, New and Old," an artist's vision of the island, not only as it is to-day, but also as it was in times far away past, when slaver and sugar king made its history a romance.

Dr. W. J. Rolfe is to take charge of a new Department in *The Critic*, to be entitled "Shakespeariana."

That superb publication *Les Lettres et les Arts*, Paris, has been discontinued after an existence of four years. It was too good for

this world, and subscribers willing to pay \$5 for a single number were too few.

About two years ago a monthly periodical in the German language, known as the *Deutsch-Amerikanische Dichtung*, was established in New York by Konrad Nies and Hermann Rosenthal. The monthly has been continued up to the present time, but with varying success. Most of the contributions were voluntary and not paid for. Last June some German citizens who had appreciated the enterprise concluded to form a society to see that their undertaking should be made permanent. The *Verein für Deutsche Literatur und Kunst* in America was formed, and its articles of incorporation have just been filed in the office of the Secretary of State at Albany. It is intended to put the publication on a business basis as soon as possible, paying for all matter accepted, and endeavoring to reach a high standard. The undertaking is strictly coöperative. The Verein has at present eighty members. Each pays an initiation fee of \$3, and monthly dues of 50 cents, getting in return a copy of the magazine free. By extending this system among the reading class of Germans, it is thought a monthly can be produced that will be in every way a credit to German-Americans.

The *Ladies' Home Journal*, which is now under the editorial charge of Mr. Edward W. Bok, and makes a series of very attractive announcements for 1890, is one of the notable periodicals of Philadelphia. At the last count, it states, its list of paid subscribers numbered 422,356, and it prints and sells each month an edition of 500,000. Mr. Curtis, who organized and pushed forward the enterprise, deserves congratulations on his success.

The issue of *America*, (Chicago), for December 12 contained an interesting article on American cartoonists, accompanied by examples of some of the satirical artists. Thomas Nast, C. Gray-Parker, F. G. Attwood, Frank P. W. Bellew (Chip), H. G. Taylor, and "Junius," were represented by cartoons drawn for *America*, while Joseph Keppler and Bernard Gillam's work was illustrated by reproductions from *Puck*. According to *America*, the great American cartoonists can be counted on the fingers of one hand with two fingers to spare,—which is probably a sound judgment. But when we come to enumerate them, there would doubtless be controversy. We certainly should not now include Mr. Nast.

The issue of the *Illustrated American*, to begin February 1, 1890, is announced, the offices to be in New York and Chicago. It will be a high-class illustrated weekly, of 24 quarto pages. "The illustrations," the prospectus says, "will be of the finest character; finer than anything yet known to the weekly press, finer in many respects than anything known even to the great monthlies that now confessedly lead the world in artistic merit. Every number will contain a colored supplement, drawn, engraved, and printed by the best artists in their various lines, aided by the best mechanical effects known to science." The literary direction will be in the hands of Mr. William S. Walsh, lately of *Lippincott's Magazine*. The general charge will be in the hands of Mr. Maurice M. Minton, formerly of the *New York Herald*. Mr. C. de Grimm is director of the art department.

The *Forum* announces for next year, among other good things, articles by Cardinal Manning on "Laborers' Grievances"; by Professor St. George Mivart, on "The Omniscience of Agnosticism"; by Sir Richard Burton, on the "Drawbacks of High Civilization"; and by Major J. W. Powell, on "The Antiquity of Man in America." The success of *The Forum* in a field which seemed already well occupied has been very remarkable.

Herbert Spencer was recently quoted in the *London Times* as avowing the nationalization of land, which drew out a letter from him repudiating the doctrine as ascribed to him. This led to a vely discussion, in which Professor Huxley, Sir Louis Mallet, and others took part, and a variety of views on the general question were expressed. The correspondence is printed in the January *Popular Science Monthly*, under the title "Letters on The Land Question."

ART NOTES.

THE handsome galleries of the reconstructed Art Club building were inaugurated by the opening on Wednesday of a fine exhibition of pictures. The main gallery is devoted to oil paintings, and the two adjoining rooms, extending along the Brighton street front, to water colors. There are about 230 entries, mostly, if not entirely, by American artists, and a large part of them by Philadelphians, though many contributions are made from New York, and a few from other cities. The exhibition is intended to continue for a month, closing on January 18, and admission to it will be by card from the Committee of Arrangements, or otherwise through members of the Club.

The pictures are well arranged, and make a very striking exhibition. In the main gallery the most prominent place at the south end is occupied by one of Peter Moran's New Mexican

scenes, a large composition, "Down the Aroya to Santa Fé," and the corresponding place at the north end by C. Y. Turner's "Bridal Procession."—Priscilla, the Puritan maiden, mounted on the white bull which John Alden is leading. Two large pictures of note on the east wall are Ida Waugh's "Hagar and Ishmael," a strong and sympathetic composition, which was shown at the French Salon, and—under it—F. De Bourg Richards's painting of the great September storm on the New Jersey Coast. These we mention simply as among those likely to attract the visitor's notice. There are contributions of a high order of merit by many other artists, not least among them some of the water colors.

The catalogue was not in print at the time of making these notes: we may mention, however, among the contributors from Philadelphia, Peter Moran, F. De Bourg Richards, Harry R. Poore, F. F. De Crano, N. H. Trotter, J. B. Sword, Prosper L. Senat, George Wright, Stephen Ferris, Gerome L. Ferris, Carl Newman, E. S. Balch, B. F. Gilman, W. A. Porter, Thomas Eakins, C. H. Spooner, S. Edwin Whiteman, Clifford P. Grayson, Frederick Waugh, Birdsall D. Paine, and Dorr Schäffer. Among the lady artists are Ida Waugh, Lavinia Ebbinghausen, Susan H. Bradley, R. N. Van Trump, Elizabeth E. Baker, Alice Barber, Eliza J. Holtzbecker, Blanche Dillaye, and Elizabeth F. Bonsall.

The New York contributors include William Sartain, A. Brusstar Sewell, W. Verplanck Birney, Hamilton Hamilton, C. Harry Eaton, C. Y. Turner, Kruseman Van Elten, Benoni Irwin, W. Merritt Post, Frederick James, Thomas B. Craig, Thomas Moran, F. K. M. Rehn, M. Seymour Bloodgood, and J. Wells Champney. E. N. Roberts, Paris; Flora L. Tonner, Albany; and S. W. Lombard, Braintree, Mass., are a few additional names.

On Wednesday evening the club entertained a large number of invited guests at a private view of the exhibition, and the broad halls and stairways, as well as the handsome galleries, were crowded, during the hours from 8 to 11, with throngs of delighted visitors, including a large proportion of ladies.

It is very probable that the magnificent exhibition of pictures accompanying the Barye bronzes in New York will awaken a new art energy there and throughout the country. Should this prove to be the case there are several painters in New York who will surely be greeted with a round of public applause for work which has already won the admiration of the connoisseurs. Mr. Albert Ryder is one of these, and his latest work, which has just received the final touches of his brush, may be expected to take an eminent place in such a renaissance. The picture is entitled "Jonah," and represents the prophet cast overboard at sea and about to be devoured by the whale. This biblical story has become so hackneyed at the hands of the wits that it required a stout artistic heart even to contemplate it as a subject for pictorial treatment; but it admirably suited Mr. Ryder's gifts, and with the disregard of trifles which characterizes genius, he has made of it so noble and impressive a work as to silence the sarcasm which would have deterred a less genuine painter. Mr. Ryder is above all else a colorist, and this quality is seen to the best possible effect in his exquisite little pastorals like "Geraldine," just sold by Cottier to a resident of Oregon. In "Jonah," however, the sweep of sea depicted is a marvel of color, and the climax of the picture: a face of the Deity, sublime in conception and treatment, is the highest note in a scale of surpassing beauty. In idea and technical value no more notable work has ever grown under the brush of an American artist. It is genuine, simple, and unequivocally original, and will make for Mr. Ryder, in company with his better known "Flying Dutchman," a reputation of the first rank.

M.

Mr. Wyatt Eaton has just returned from abroad to his New York studio, and has several portraits under way which promise to equal in excellence his charming picture of Mrs. Gilder, which was, together with a portrait of Coles, the *Century* engraver, exhibited at the Paris Exposition. Mr. Eaton's method in portraiture is so conscientious and direct, his feeling is so sympathetic, and his eye so keen for the salient traits of his sitter, that a canvas from his hand is a true work of art as well as a faithful likeness. One feels that the influence of the artist over his subject is exerted not in the direction of idealization or misinterpretation for effect; but in the reproduction of the best and most characteristic, though perhaps not the prevailing,—traits. The man or woman presented on his canvas is made to live at the moment of highest average perfection, and live with a vitality and human purpose which are unmistakable. In the portrait of Mrs. Gilder this is especially the case, though the pose and accessories have the charm of some antique masterpiece. It is Mr. Eaton's intention to live abroad, after a short stay in New York, but it is not probable that he can ever lose native traits which are so sincere and unaffected.

M.

The *Magazine of Art* for January has for frontispiece a charming etching of Meissonier's "The Halt" by Leopold Flameng, a French etcher of high repute who appears for the first time in this magazine. The chief article of the number relates to "The Nativity" of Christ, as depicted in the National Gallery in London. There are reproductions of the pictures of Fra Angelico, Botticelli, Rembrandt, and an artist of the early Flemish school. Mr. S. R. Koehler concludes his "Stroll" through the Peabody Museum at Cambridge, and there are five illustrations, one of them the portrait, by G. F. Watts, of George Peabody. A second installment of Mr. Charles Stuart's papers on "Wild Wales" is given, with numerous illustrations. There is a very interesting paper on Carl Haag, the painter, who was born at Erlangen in 1820, but has lived many years in England, his home and studio being at Hampstead, in the suburbs of London, where many other artists of note also live. (London and New York: Cassell & Co.)

The *Studio*, of New York, has made a new and energetic departure. It has changed from a monthly to a weekly issue, and appeared December 7th as the first number of the new series. The plan is to give on the first Saturday of each month a sixteen-page magazine with from three to five supplements, and on the other Saturdays a smaller sheet,—eight or twelve pages. The number for December 7 has for frontispiece an etching, by O. H. Bacher, of Barye's candelabrum, "Venus and Juno," and two other full-page supplementary sheets, illustrating Barye's work. The reading matter includes a paper on Barye and his sculptures, a very full and interesting letter from London, and minor contributions. The issue for December 17 is more newsy and chatty; it presents a good *resumé* of doings in the art field, both on this side the water and in Europe.

The editor of *The Studio* is Mr. Clarence Cook, and the manager, Mr. Joseph J. Koch: its offices are at 864 Broadway. Upon the new plan, if successful, it cannot fail to be a very valuable addition to the list of Art journals.

SCIENCE NOTES.

AT the last meeting of the Franklin Institute, Mr. W. L. Boswell, one of the delegates of the Institute to the Paris Exposition, presented a report on "The Fire Defenses of Paris, as compared with those of American cities, and especially of Philadelphia." The article will appear in the *Journal*. The Institute lectures this week were by Mr. R. W. Pope of New York, on "Electricity; its Past, Present, and Future" (16th) and Thomas Pray, M.E., C.E., of Boston, "What Does a Steam Horse Power Cost?" (Dec. 20th). The annual meeting of the Institute occurs January 15, 1890, at which meeting the reports of the Board of Managers and of Standing Committees are presented. The annual election of officers is held the same day.

The *Proceedings* of the National Academy of Sciences contain an account of some recent experiments, instigated by Mr. Joseph Wharton of this city, to determine the magnetism of nickel and tungsten alloys. It has been known that certain kinds of steel when alloyed with tungsten (or wolfram) increase in specific magnetism; whether the same would be observed in nickel alloys had not been investigated. The conclusions founded on the experiments of Messrs. J. Trowbridge and S. Sheldon, indicate that tungsten greatly increases the magnetic moment of nickel if the alloy be forged and rolled, but it has but little influence if the alloy be cast. It is also noticed that in the forged and rolled alloy changes in the amount of tungsten used do not proportionately affect the specific magnetism. If the alloy can be made to maintain a fixed specific magnetism it will form a useful addition to the resources of physical laboratories.

A Bulletin of the U. S. National Museum, lately published, is "A Catalogue of Minerals and Synonyms, alphabetically arranged for the use of Museums," by T. Egleston, Ph. D. Collectors and curators will find the work very useful.

A treatise on the "Physics of the Earth's Crust," by Mr. Fisher, an English scientist, has passed to a second edition. The book contains some interesting speculation concerning the supposed liquid interior of the earth. The author holds that the existence of such a liquid substratum, consisting of fused rock and dissolved gases, is in accord with known physical laws. This liquid body or "magma" is not inert or motionless, but there are currents in it which lead to continuous displacements of mass. In this way the author sees his way to explain the formation of mountain ranges; the phenomena of compression, evidences of which are everywhere found; the slow subsidence of great areas, such as that of the Pacific coral belt; the occurrence of volcanoes, etc.

Prof. E. D. Cope, of the University of Pennsylvania, has a short communication in *Nature* (London) of 28th November, criticizing some recent expressions of Mr. Wallace. The latter speaks of "the survival of favorable variations" as a cause explaining certain characters. Prof. Cope's criticism is that the attempt is made to do away with the transmission of acquired characters as a factor in the case. The attempt, Prof. Cope thinks, to produce variations by mutilations and abrupt modifications is not likely to prove successful, as this is not Nature's way of evolving characters;—but this does not affect the truth of the Lamarckian principle.

The *Transactions of the American Philological Association* for 1888, (just issued), contain *inter alia* an article by Prof. F. A. March of Lafayette College, on "Standard English; its Pronunciation, How Learned." Prof. March argues against the phonetists who say there is no standard English, and that the various English-speaking communities have each a different dialect. These men, he says, "use no part of their heads above their ears." Prof. March thinks that there is a standard pronunciation which has come down to us, is expressed in our dictionaries, and should be carefully taught in our schools.

Volume IV., Nos. 3 and 4, of the *Publications of the Modern Language Association* consist of "*La Naissance du Chevalier au Cygne au les Enfants changés en Cygnes*," a French poem of the XIIIth century, published for the first time by Dr. Henry A. Todd of Johns Hopkins University.

The committee appointed by the Marine Conference to consider the subject of life-saving systems and devices, has prepared a report which was ready for presentation on the 15th inst. In regard to collisions at sea, experience has shown that vessels frequently take advantage of the circumstances attendant upon such disasters to escape without identification in order to avoid responsibility. The committee recommends a measure making it obligatory upon masters of vessels to remain upon the scene until satisfied that the other vessel is in need of no further assistance. Regarding the use of oil to calm the waters, after an examination of the cases in which oil has been used, the committee thinks there no longer can be any doubt but that the use of oil is efficacious on the open sea, but there are conditions under which the action of breaking waves can be but little modified. All vessels should be supplied with oil apparatus and a quantity of vegetable oil. This has been found superior to mineral oil. The remainder of the report treats of the saving of life and property from the shore. It is thought impracticable to make definite rules regarding patterns of articles of equipment, but a system for transmission of information between stranded vessels and the shore is marked out.

A report made to the French Government by M. E. Blanc upon the desert line of southern Tunis, states that the whole southern line is suffering rapid encroachment from the sand dunes of the Sahara. At a considerable distance within the limits of the present desert ruins of buildings were found, which, from indications, were occupied at the time of the Roman ascendancy. The lack of water renders reclamation especially difficult, and at present there seems no way to check the sands. Artesian wells are only partially successful and yield a supply entirely inadequate to the need.

ORIENTAL NOTES.

PROFESSOR Morris Jastrow, Jr. of the University of Pennsylvania has written an article in the *Zeitschrift für Assyriologie* on a Babylonian cylinder belonging to Mr. Talcott Williams of Philadelphia. The inscription is very much worn, but Prof. Jastrow is of the opinion that it belongs to a king Marduk-tabik-Zirim, hitherto unknown. This king, Prof. Jastrow is inclined to think, belonged to the middle or close of the twelfth century B. C.

Freytag, of Leipzig, has published a work by D. H. Müller on "Epigraphic Monuments from Arabia."

F. C. W. Vogel of Leipzig, has just published the twenty-fifth edition of Gesenius's well-known Hebrew grammar, edited by Professor Kautzsch, of Halle. This edition, just 76 years since Gesenius first published his grammar, is really a new work, marking a great advance not only on the old editions, but also on its immediate predecessor. Although the editor has been conservative in admitting new theories, it is evident at a glance that Semitic philology has made great strides during the past ten or fifteen years, and that the results of this work have at length found their way into a Hebrew grammar. The syntax, which was the weak-

est part of the former editions, has been completely rewritten, and an idea may be gained of the amount of new material, from the fact that the work contains almost one hundred pages more than the twenty-fourth edition.

Cæsar Josephson has written an interesting Doctor's dissertation at Breslau on the legends of the battles of the Maccabees against the Syrians, from Greek and Jewish sources. This war is of much interest, as being the first really religious war which the Jews fought. The Talmud, strange to say, contains very few notices of this war and never mentions the name Maccabee. This omission is probably due to the quarrels between the Pharisees and the descendants of the Asmonean family, under John Hyrcanus and Alexander Jannæus. Many of the legends are taken from the so-called Megillat Antiochus.

A. Fleischhacker, in a Halle dissertation, treats of the legends concerning the death of Moses.

Emile Bouillon of Paris, publishes parts 27 and 28 of "*Monuments divers recueillis en Egypte et en Nubie*," by Mariette-Pacha, with the text by Prof. G. Maspero.

Seligman Pick, in a Breslau Doctor's dissertation, makes a study of the relations in language between the third chapter of the Book of Lamentations and the Book of Jeremiah. Ernst Selin, in a Leipzig dissertation, has made an important contribution to Hebrew grammar by a study of the double nature (verbal and nominal) of the Hebrew participle and infinitive. C. A.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

PROBLEMS IN AMERICAN SOCIETY. By Joseph Henry Crooker. Pp. 293. \$1.25. Boston: George H. Ellis.

A NEW ENGLAND GIRLHOOD. Outlined from Memory. By Lucy Larcom. Pp. 274. \$0.75. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

WILBUR FISKE. By George Prentice, D. D. [American Religious Leaders.] Pp. 289. \$1.25. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

PORTRAITS OF FRIENDS. By John Campbell Shairp. Pp. 212. \$1.25. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

THREE DRAMAS OF EURIPIDES. By William Cranston Lawton. Pp. 261. \$1.50. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

DRIFT.

A CORRESPONDENT at Brussels sends THE AMERICAN some interesting details upon the production of fire-arms at Liège, Belgium. The city has an extensive reputation in Europe for this manufacture, with an active and increasing commerce.

"In 1888 Liège produced 1,503,540 fire-arms, of which 612,350 were revolvers; this special arm is growing more and more in general use. In 1887 the total production amounted to 925,545 arms, showing the progress of the industry during one year an increase of 62.6 per cent. This increase in production has not materially benefited the manufacturers, however, as prices decreased in enormous proportions. Thus in 1887 the value of all arms manufactured amounted to 11,337,798 francs, while in 1888, for a production nearly double, the total value was but 12,262,369 francs. The working people were poorly paid, earning at most two francs per day, the day's work averaging from 12 to 14 hours. The principal cause of decrease in prices, is the state of affairs on the West Coast of Africa, where the principal element of commerce with the blacks is powder, side-arms, and fire-arms of inferior manufacture. Holland also buys largely of arms manufactured at Liège.

"In 1888 the exportations from Liège were as follows: to Holland, 2,124,081 francs; to Germany, 1,643,471; to France, 1,926,826; to the United States, 1,184,494; to England, 799,647. Exportations in small amounts were made to Brazil, China, Italy, and Portugal."

In its prospectus for 1890 *The Forum* gives some details that are of general interest in relation to periodical publishing. It says: "The career of most reviews as financial undertakings has been discouraging. None of the British reviews has ever paid its owners largely and the income of most of them has not met expenses. In the United States the publishers of review literature have had a similar experience. More such enterprises have been abandoned than have lived. By far the larger part of the American periodicals that may fairly be classed as reviews are the mouth-pieces of schools, or sects, or parties, whose aim is to be the exponents of particular doctrines or opinions; and, although many of them do useful service, they are partisan, are indeed intended to be partisan. The projectors of *The Forum*, although they knew the financial hazard of such an enterprise, thought four years ago that American concern about the problems of the time—many of them new problems in government, religion, sociology, and practical affairs—was both keen enough and general enough to maintain a periodical that should aim not to amuse but to instruct, and that should prefer dignified and reverential to sensational discussions. The soundness of this opinion has been proved. *The Forum's* subscription list has been very nearly doubled every year, and it is now believed to be larger than the subscription list that any other periodical of the same class in England or the United States has had for any considerable period. It was founded in March, 1886, by a stock company organized for the sole purpose of conducting it, and incorporated under the laws of the State of New York. Its stockholders are professional men and men of affairs who differ widely with one another in religion and politics, but who have a common purpose to build up a vehicle for the foremost thought on the pressing problems of the time and for the most instructive experiences in practical affairs. How useful it is in furthering helpful

discussion is shown by the fact that during the past twelve months more than 3,000 editorials suggested by its articles were published in the American and British press; it is used in connection with their lectures by professors at Harvard, and at many other leading institutions in the country; and among its subscribers is a large proportion of the men that are conspicuous in public life."

The following table presents in a striking way an idea of the throngs that attended the Paris Exposition. Out of 185 days during which it was open the attendance was divided as follows:

8 days less than	50,000
41 days between 50,000 and 100,000	
86 days between 100,000 and 150,000	
19 days between 150,000 and 200,000	
19 days between 200,000 and 250,000	
5 days between 250,000 and 300,000	
6 days between 300,000 and 350,000	
1 day between 350,000 and 400,000	

The smallest attendance was on Friday, May 10, when the figure was 36,922. The largest was on Sunday, October 3, when it reached 387,877.

The editor of the *Pull Mall Gazette*, Mr. Stead, made a careful study of the Propaganda while in Rome recently. In the whole institution, he says, there is not one Englishman or American. There is one antediluvian Irishman who is connected in some way with the congregation, but it is more than forty years since he visited his native land, and the very stones which surround the dead heart of O'Connell in the Church of St. Agatha have more sympathy with the Irish movement to-day than has the solitary old Irish Benedictine who alone of English-speaking men has the right officially to visit the Propaganda. The permanent officials are all Italians.

The impression has hitherto prevailed in Russia, as elsewhere in Europe and in America, that serfdom was abolished once and for all time in 1861 by the late Emperor. This is, however, far from being the case, and it appears from the Russian newspapers that serfdom in its pristine form flourishes on the northern shores of the Caspian Sea.—*Boston Journal*.

The New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railroad receives as much money annually—\$17,647—for a single fast mail train between New York and Springfield as is paid to all the American mail steamships plying between our ports and South America.

According to the *New York Times*, seven new British war vessels have had their steam trials within the past three weeks, and have broken down in boilers or machinery in every instance. It was the *Times*, we believe, which originally suggested, some years ago, when the building of our new steel navy was under contemplation, that we could not expect to construct good warships in this tariff-ridden country, and that we had better purchase them of England. We hear no such talk nowadays from the most rampant Democratic organs.—*Boston Journal*.

The Ladies' Hermitage Association, of Nashville, Tenn., having procured a charter from the Legislature, granting to it the dwelling and tomb of Andrew Jackson, together with a tract of twenty-five acres which surround it, proposes to repair the house, which is in an extreme state of dilapidation, and is to lay out the grounds in the form of a memorial park. With this object in view, the Association has issued a public appeal for funds, which is indorsed by the Andrew Jackson League.

A blind sculptor, Vidal by name, is among the wonders of France. He is guided altogether in his work by the sense of touch. A dog, horse, human face or anything alive or dead he models with as much ease as any of the dozens of Parisian sculptors who still retain the faculty of sight. From 1855 to 1875 Vidal received, it is said, more medals than any other exhibitor of works in the Paris art exhibition. Many of his works, made in the solitude of his perpetual midnight, were at the Paris Exhibition, where the blind wonder contended in friendly rivalry with his less unfortunate brother artists.

Haverford College has just purchased the library of the celebrated German scholar, Dr. Gustave Bauer, of Leipsic, Germany, who recently died. The library consists of 8,000 volumes. The purchase was made through the efforts of Professor J. Rendel Harris, of whose special department most of the works treat. There was great competition among German scholars as to who should carry off the prize, and the purchase places in the hands of Haverford one of the finest, if not the very finest, library of ecclesiastical literature, Hebrew, Syriac, and many other rare manuscripts, which can be found in this country. Some friends of the College subscribed the necessary funds for the purchase. The library will be immediately packed, and is expected to arrive in about a month.

Mr. Curtis contributes to *Harper's Magazine* for January a very enthusiastic notice of Mr. Howells's "*A Hazard of New Fortunes*." He says that the story is "what has been long desired and often attempted, but never before achieved—a novel of New York life in the larger sense." He continues: "Like Balzac, here is a student of life; but, unlike Balzac, here is a sweet and open and generous mind, and a picture firm with clear insight and glowing with human sympathy."

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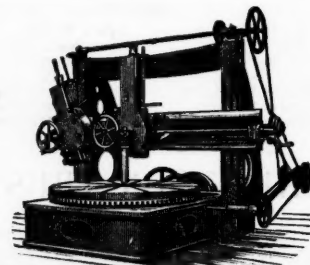
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